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College and School News

Vernon Cornelius Smith, Morehouse '33, has been appointed superintendent of buildings and grounds at **Spelman College.**

Principal William A. Robinson of the **Atlanta University** Laboratory School began Jan. 1, 1940, to direct a study of secondary schools for Negroes for six months under a General Education Board grant.

Atlanta University has begun publication of a scholarly journal, "Phylon", dealing with race problems throughout the world. Dr. W. E. B. DuBois is editor-in-chief.

The **Hampton Institute** Ministers Conference recently made a gift of $900 to the Hampton Institute Memorial Church. The money will be used for remodeling of platform, pulpit and choir stalls.

Edwin L. Phillips has been appointed Director of Public Relations at **Talladega College.** His office will foster and maintain contacts between the college and its former students, recruit students of high calibre, maintain a placement office for students and graduates, and obtain publicity for the College and increase its prestige.

Ohio State University conferred degrees on five colored students as follows: Leonard H. Glover, Huntington, W. Va., M.A. in Education; Naomi Alicia Hooker of Columbus, O., B.S. in Education; Bertha Mae Phillips of Columbus, O., B.S. in Education; Alice Jane Morgan, Columbus, O., B.S. in Home Economics; Charles Acril Reed, Oberlin, O., Bachelor of Commerce, and Julie M. Warrick, Cleveland, O., B.S. in Education. The degrees were conferred on December 21.

The **University of Chicago** on December 19, conferred the degree of Master of Arts on Dean Robert L. Jack, **Piney Woods School,** Piney Woods, Miss. His thesis was The History of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is a

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graduate of Southern Illinois State Normal University, 1936. He is now working towards a degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Lincoln University (Mo.) Law School has been approved on a probationary status by the American Bar Association.

West Virginia State College has set a precedent by putting the first unit of colored Civil Aeronautics Authority students into the air. Nine men and one girl are in the unit. The girl, the first of her group to make a CAA pilot training flight is Rose Agnes Rolls, a senior in the department of Business Administration. Several of the trainees are already prepared for solo flight.

Mary K. Prentiss has given $10,000 to **Knoxville College.** She lives in Steubenville, O.

Adolph H. Parsons of Tupelo, Miss., a senior at **Morehouse College,** represented the Morehouse Ministers Union at the World Student Christian Federation Meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, during Christmas holidays.

Miss Alfreda M. Mosher, Boston, Mass., has given twenty-one valuable new books of reference to the **Storer College** library.

The work of repairing Anthony Memorial Hall, recently damaged by fire, has been completed.

Wilberforce University has sponsored a new publication, "Wilberforce University Quarterly", edited by V. V. Oak.

Howard University's new field agent is Mr. Amour J. Blackburn, A.B., A.M., a native of Augusta, Ga. He received his higher education at Howard University and the Graduate School of Columbia University. He has served as school principal at Rowland and Fayetteville, N. C. He has also revised the English course of study in North Carolina in 1935, and wrote a textbook on the Negro in North Carolina in 1936, to be used in all the public schools of the state.

Miss Susie A. Elliott has been appointed Dean of Women of Howard. She was formerly Head of the Department of Women's Industries at Tuskegee School of Home Economics and the Department of Commercial Dietetics. She holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Teachers College, Columbia University. She has held positions on the faculty of National Training School, Durham, N.

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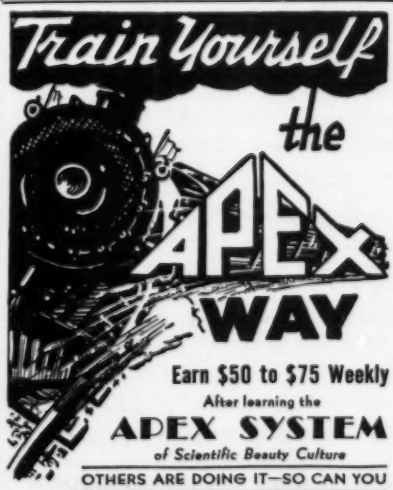

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C., and the Winston-Salem Teachers College, and been director of Emma Ransom House (YWCA) in New York City.

Howard has begun its aviation program with 63 students.

Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, Associate Professor of Education, has been appointed Director of the Summer School for the 1940 session.

Bethune-Cookman College will celebrate its 35th anniversary, February 16, 17 and 18, when thousands of friends, alumni and board members will be present. Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt will speak on the afternoon of February 18th.

New Houses for 5,000 Low-income Families

Nearly 5,000 low-income Negro families in 16 communities will be rehoused in decent, safe and sanitary dwellings under terms of United States Housing Authority loan contracts approved by President Roosevelt upon recommendation of USHA Administrator Nathan Straus.

Negro families in Ohio will receive the greatest share of dwellings on the current list with 1,170 families to be rehoused in two projects in Cleveland; 1,015 in Cincinnati; 136 in Toledo; and 52 in Barberton,—a total of 2,373 for the State.

Other communities in which provisions were made for Negro families include Los Angeles, California, 400; Washington, D. C., 298; Decatur, 208 and Augusta, Georgia, 276; St. Clair County, Illinois, 160; Detroit, Michigan, 502; Jersey City, New Jersey, 234; Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, 73; Spartanburg, South Carolina, 150; Pelly, Texas, 30; Newport News, Virginia, 252; and Williamson, West Virginia, 38.

History Week, Feb. 11–17

The fifteenth annual observance of Negro History week will be February 11–17, under the nation-wide auspices of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History of which Dr. Carter G. Woodson is director. Information may be obtained from Dr. Woodson at 1538 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Adult Education Conference

Hampton Institute was host January 22–25 to the second conference on adult education and the Negro sponsored by the extension department of the Institute and the Associates of Negro Folk Education.

Red Caps Hear Pickens

Dean William Pickens of the N.A.A.C.P. was among the many prominent speakers who addressed the second annual convention of the International Brotherhood of Red Caps in New York City, January 12–14. President Willard S. Townsend was re-elected, and the name of the organization was changed to the United Transport Service Employees Union of America.

Scholarship Societies Meet

The third annual conference of Scholastic Honorary Societies in Negro Colleges met at Arkansas State College, Pine Bluff, in December. Dr. I. A. Derbigny of Tuskegee was elected president.

Negro History Week

N.A.A.C.P. youth groups throughout the country will observe the 15th annual Negro History Week February 11-18, in various ways. Many councils and college chapters are initiating programs of their own, while others are cooperating with local organizations.

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910. *It is published monthly at* 69 *Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15c *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March* 3, 1879, *and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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THE COVER

Richard Brent is a young Harlem artist who specializes in drawings of significance about men and events in Negro history.

NEXT MONTH

G. P. LaBarre, Jr., of the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, contributes an article "New Rebels in the Old South."

There will be also another story, "Patch Quilt" by Marita Bonner.

George Padmore writes from London a piece entitled "The French Colonial System," debunking the popular notion that France's black citizens really enjoy "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity."

There will be a third article (the last of a series) by J. A. Rogers.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

J. A. Rogers is the well known writer, lecturer and historian, the author of numerous books dealing with phases of Negro history throughout the world.

•

Carl Van Vechten, although occupied primarily with photography, still has not given up his typewriter altogether.

•

Charles Rowan is a native of Georgia whose employment is such that his address cannot be given without endangering his security.

•

Arthur B. Spingarn is the newly elected president of the NAACP. For 27 years he was chairman of the national legal committee. His hobby is the collection of books by Negroes and his library of such books is one of the largest, if not the largest, in the country.

•

B. B. Walcott is a member of the Public Relations Bureau of Tuskegee Institute.

•

Henry Lee Moon was for many years a member of the staff of the New York *Amsterdam News*. He is now in the information service of the United States Housing Authority in Washington.

Britain's Black Background

By J. A. Rogers

ENGLAND was the grandmother of color prejudice and Virginia the mother. The theory of Nordic white superiority, including Hitler's Aryan one, was born in the British North American colonies. Its purpose was to cast the Negroes out of the human race, to depict them as sub-human, and thus justify treatment of them as beasts of burden, hence such books as "The Negro, a Beast." Black and white, however, had been living in peace, so far as color was concerned, from the most ancient times. Such color disputes as existed, say in the Mohammedan East, were no more serious than the differences between blondes and brunettes in America now. There were several full-blooded Negro rulers of the Mohammedan empire at Bagdad. The only exception was in India thousands of years before Christ when the fair-skinned peoples of the North invaded the Negro lands of the South. Indeed, racial differences were so little observed prior to the colonization of America that the King James version of the Bible mentions "race" only as a contest.

The English colonists in Virginia with rich crops of tobacco, the currency of that time, as their goal, started their jim-crow soon after 1619. Quite different it was with the Spanish, the Portuguese and even the Dutch colonists. The Hollanders of New York treated the Negroes rather kindly, permitting them to worship in the white churches, and giving them land in what is now downtown New York. As early as 1650 there was a Negro physician, Lucas Santomee, in New York. But no sooner had the English seized that colony than they set up the most rigorous laws against the Negroes, forbidding their burial in white churchyards and confiscating all the lands they had acquired under the Dutch. The English occupation of New York set back the Negro New Yorker at least two centuries. The first and only jim-crow law I have been able to find in European history after many years of research was in England. In 1731, the Lord Mayor and Alderman of London passed a law forbidding the teaching of trades to Negroes. There were at least 15,000 black people in London at the time. (*London Journal*, Oct. 16, 1731).

In Latin America it is comparatively easy to find the names of Negro emperors and presidents over white people,

Color prejudice and jim crow laws originated in England and have been carried out most rigorously in countries of English origin like the United States, says Mr. Rogers. It is here suggested that the Anglo-Saxons are not as "pure" as they would have the world believe and that this knowledge may account for their treatment of colored peoples. The theory is in line with the common experience of Negroes in America: that a Negro who is "passing for white" almost always is more bitterly prejudiced toward his own people than are the whites

great generals, and statesmen from the latter part of the 17th century onwards. It is quite different in English-speaking America where the iron rule of caste kept them down. There was not a single Negro officer in the American Revolutionary war, and probably no United States army officer in the Civil war. At least I have not been able to find a single name of those Negroes who have been spoken of as officers, in the official army and navy register. Nevertheless Napoleon, fifty years earlier, had at least twelve Negro generals in France and many Negro officers. The United States, thanks to her English origin, is the only country in the New World with laws on her statute-books against her own native-born citizens. When the South treats Negroes as she does she is only living up to her English tradition.

First Europeans Were Black

Since the English were so arrogant and proud in the matter of race, the question is: Was there any justification in their claim of unsullied Anglo-Saxon purity? Were they of purer white stock than the rest of the so-called white race?

There is strong and increasing proof that the first-known inhabitants of Europe were Negroes. Space will not permit my quoting the vast array of evidence on this point. Negro huts have been found in England as was said in my article on Negro explorers.[1] C. Van Riet Lowe says, "Implements recovered from the oldest and most classic terraces of the Somme and the Thames are indistinguishable in contour and shape from those of the Vaal and Caledon valleys in the Orange Free State or from the Bushman's and Eerste Rivers in the Cape . . . We believe that from some common centre, most probably in Africa, prehistoric folk carried their cultures to all corners of the Old World."

Professor Sollas says, "What became of the Negroid inhabitants of Europe no one can say. They were there before the great Ice Age and then they disappeared as races have done before them." Might not the answer be that they were amalgamated by invading races?

Whatever it be, there is abundant proof that a black aboriginal race lived in the British Isles side by side with a white one. Tacitus, Roman historian of 80 A.D., distinctly speaks of the Black Celts with "swarthy skin and curly hair."

The researches of three distinguished British archaeologists seem to leave no doubt on that score, namely, Godfrey Higgins, who traced the subject from religious origins; Gerald Massey, poet and Egyptologist, who treated it philologically; and David McRitchie, who worked from folk-lore.

Massey in his "Book of the Beginnings," Volume One, "Egyptian Origins in the British Isles," brings forward a formidable mass of evidence to prove the presence of Negroes in the British Isles. He thinks that Stonehenge, the most famous ancient monument in England was built by a Negro architect, named Morien, (that is Mor, or Moor, from the ancient Egyptian). He says, "Now as a Negro is still known as Morien in English, may not this indicate that Morien belonged to the black race, the Kushite builders?"

Buddhists Were Negroid

Higgins, an earlier writer, thinks these Negro builders were Buddhists—and originated in India. The earliest Buddhas are all woolly-haired, flat-nosed, and thick-lipped. He says, "A great nation called the Celtae, of whom the Druids were the priests, spread themselves almost over the earth and are to be traced in their gigantic monuments from India to the extremity of Britain. Who can these have been but the early individuals of the black nation of whom we are treating I know not;

[1] The Crisis, January, 1940, p. 7.

and in my opinion I am not singular. The learned Maurice says, "Cushites, that is, Celts, built the great temples in India and Britain and excavated the caves of the former." And the learned mathematician, Ruben Burrow, has no hesitation in pronouncing Stonehenge to be a temple of the black, curly-headed Buddha."

Massey says, as regards this, "It is certain that the Black Buddha of India was imaged in the Negroid type. In the black Negro God, whether called Buddha or Sut-Nahsi we have a datum. They carry their color in the proof of their origin. The people who first fashioned and worshipped the divine image in the Negroid mold of humanity must, according to all knowledge of human nature, have been Negroes themselves. For blackness is not merely mystical, the features and hair of Buddha belong to the black race and Nahsi is the Negro name. The genetrix represented as the Dea Multimammia, the Diana of Ephesus, is found as a black figure, nor is the hue mystical only, for the features are Negroid as were those of the black Isis in Egypt."

With regard to the worship of this Negro goddess in Britain, D. A. MacKenzie, "Ancient Man in Britain," says, "In Scotland, a black goddess (the Nigra Dea) in Adamnan's Life of Columba is associated with Loch Lochy." The celebrated Black Virgin of Chartres, France, is said to have been brought there from Britain.

McRitchie in his "Ancient and Modern Britons" deals with a much later date. He mentions the dominance of the Moors in Scotland as late as the time of the Saxon kings. He says, "So late as the tenth century three of these provinces (of Scotland) were wholly black and the supreme ruler of these became for a time the paramount king of Transmarine Scotland. . .

"We see one of the black people—the Moors of the Romans—in the person of a king of Alban of the tenth century. History know him as Kenneth, sometimes as Dubh and as Niger . . .

"We know as a historical fact that a Niger Vel Dubh has lived and reigned over certain black divisions of our islands—and probably white divisions also—and that a race known as the 'sons of the Black' succeeded him in history." These Negroes, he adds, were bred out just as a Negro finally disappears by mating with whites only, so "that no ethnologists could detect the presence of other blood." "And," he adds, "yet in both cases, the male descendants would bear the surname first given to their remote ancestors—a surname signifying 'the black man.'"

Black Douglas of Scotland

McRitchie continues, "You may see faces of a distinctly Mongolian and even of a Negroid cast in families whose pedigree may be traced for many generations without disclosing the slightest hint of extra-British blood . . .

"So far as complexion goes there can be no doubt as to the presence of a vast infusion of 'colored' blood. There are, of course, no living Britons who are as black as Negroes, but some are as dark as mulattoes and many darker than Chinese. To regard ourselves in the mass as a 'white people' except in a comparative degree, is quite a mistake."

McRitchie gives the names of several of these Negro families whose names are famous in English history, and American hsitory, too. One of these is the celebrated Douglas, one of the ancestors of the present royal family of Britain. J. A. Ringrose (*Heraldry*, pp. 68-69) says of the founder of this family, "About the year 770 in the reign of Salvathius, King of the Scots, Donald Bane of the Western Isles having invaded Scotland and routed the royal army, a man of rank and figure came seasonably with his followers to the king's assistance. He renewed the battle and obtained a complete victory over the invader. The King being anxious to see the man who had done him such signal service, he was pointed out to him by his colour, or complexion in Gaelic language—sholto-du-glash—'behold the black or swarthy-coloured man' from which he obtained the name Sholto Douglas."

McRitchie points out further that the best proof of the Negro origin of some of these noble British families are "the thick-lipped Moors" on their coat-of-arms. Some of these families are still named Moore. Berry's Encyclopedia Heraldica says, "Moor's head is the heraldic term for the head of a black or Negro man." Burke's Peerage contains several such families.

The Royal Family Tree

W. H. Turton investigated the ancestry of Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV of England, mother of Henry VIII, direct ancestor of the present royal family and he found, in only 7000 of her millions of ancestors, several Moorish kings, an Arab born in Mecca, an ex-Moorish slave, named Mujahid, and Leon, a Jew, all peoples known for their Negroid ancestry. (The Heiress of the Plantagenets, pp. 44, 54, and Notes 78, 83, 97, 98, 99, 126). The earlier Moorish kings were nearly all Negroes or dark mulattoes. As Flournoy says, "A considerable portion of the Moroccan population, especially the aristocracy and the royal family, had Negro blood in their veins."

The portrait of James I of Scotland, another ancestor of the British royal family, reminds one of a type of full-blooded Negro, common in the West Indies, except that the hair is straight. And as regards Queen Charlotte Sophia, wife of George III, another direct ancestor of the present royal family, her portrait by Ramsay in the National Gallery shows her to be decidedly Negroid. I have a copy bought in London which I have been showing to both colored and white persons without saying who she was and they invariably take her for a colored woman, which was what first attracted me to the portrait.

Space, also, will not permit me to deal with the Moorish sea-rovers, who used to invade the coasts of the British Isles, principally Ireland, as late as the early eighteenth century. They were so powerful that Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Spain and the United States had to pay tribute to them. One of their emperors, the celebrated Mulai Ismael, an almost full-blooded Negro, had 25,000 white slaves captured in Europe or on the high seas to build his stables at Meknes, the most colossal in existence.

Slavery for Three Centuries

Britain's Negro strain is not all of the distant past however. Negroes were introduced as slaves in the British Isles about 1440. One Negro, according to Fuller's Worthies of England, invented the first fine sewing needle in the reign of Mary I. Black bandsmen were common in the British army, and in the picture of the tournament given by Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon is a Negro Trumpeter.

Negro slavery lasted in England until 1772, that is, for more than three centuries, and was abolished twice. What became of the vast numbers of Negroes who arrived during this period? According to the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1764 (p. 493), London had in that year about 20,000 Negro slaves, not to mention the free Negroes. This was a large proportion of the population. In Bristol and Liverpool, the great slave-trading ports, the number must have been even greater. It became the fashion for the noble ladies to have black pages "to set off the whiteness of their skins." George I brought two Negro favorites with him from Germany, Mustapha and Mohamet, who enjoyed such high favor that some of the great English lords were jealous of them.

Only 351 of the freed English Negroes were ever returned to Africa. Incidentally, the night before they sailed the English authorities thriftily seized all the white prostitutes they could find, married them to the Negroes while drunk, and shipped them off to Africa,

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The James Weldon Johnson Memorial Project

By Carl Van Vechten

The plans for a memorial to the late James Weldon Johnson have reached the stage where they can be announced and Mr. Van Vechten here outlines the project

AFTER the first shock following the death of James Weldon Johnson in June, 1938, I began to ask myself what would be the most suitable form for a memorial to perpetuate the name and life purpose of this Great Negro Citizen, in the shape of which should be incorporated something of his own ideals and aspirations. I imagine that at this period a great many others were asking themselves the same question. At any rate, when I began to talk about my own ideas on the subject to Walter White, I discovered that he, too, had spent a good deal of time cogitating and that in his official capacity as secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. he had received many letters either offering suggestions towards a memorial or asking his advice in regard to the particular shape a memorial should assume. In a short time Walter and I added Arthur Spingarn to our conferences and shortly thereafter invited a group of Jim's friends to meet and confer officially on the matter. We organized this group under the title of the James Weldon Johnson Memorial Committee.

Several matters pertaining to the memorial were settled almost at once. It was obvious, for instance, that if we could induce the smaller groups throughout the country, who had made plans of their own, to combine their interests with ours and join with us in creating a larger memorial, the situation would be advanced considerably. It was further evident to all of us that James Weldon Johnson himself would have approved no scheme whereby he was celebrated merely as an individual. The memorial, it was felt, must include some kind of testimonial to the Negro race. Suggestions for a scholarship were rejected as being too narrow in scope. A scholarship must perforce benefit only a single individual each year, and be granted by one institution at a time. In addition, as a further reason for eliminating a scholarship from our discussions, we all felt that probably a good many individuals would include scholarships in the name of this man in their wills.

The idea which was finally approved and adopted by the committee is the creation of a bronze group commemorating Mr. Johnson's famous poem: "O Black and Unknown Bards," a bronze group then of the improvisators of those spirituals which Mr. Johnson so much admired, their arms and faces uplifted to heaven, an inspiration to their race, a challenge to the defamers of that race. This group will be raised high from the ground on a pedestal of marble, on one side of which will appear the head of the poet in relief, on the other side a stanza from the poem which conjured up the vision of the figures on the monument above.

It was felt from the beginning that New York was the most suitable location for this memorial. Not only had Mr. Johnson lived here for the more celebrated part of his life, but also he had written a sonnet called "My City" in which he had expressed his preference for this metropolis in no uncertain terms. Besides, while other American cities boasted one or more bronze or marble tributes to Negro individuals or Negroes as a race, no such testimonial existed in New York. In fact, on the whole island of Manhattan, on which live more Negroes than in any other city in the world, not a single monument is devoted to the celebration of this race. It was the further idea of the committee, and the Mayor of the city expressed himself as in deep sympathy with the project, that the preferred location for this statue, the spot where it could be observed and appreciated by the most people, would be on the island in the center of Seventh avenue, immediately above One Hundred and Tenth street, facing the entrance at that point to Central Park.

The sculptor who has been chosen to realize this project, subject of course to the final approval of the committee and the Civic Art Commission of his completed design, is Richmond Barthé, Negro sculptor and Mr. Johnson's friend.

Mr. Barthé was born in New Orleans thirty-seven years ago and

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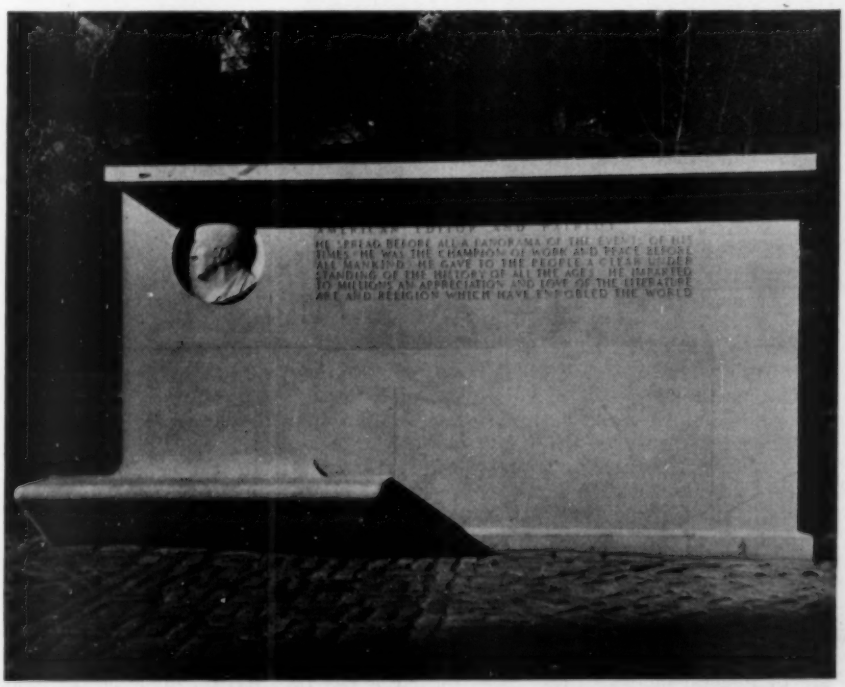


The memorial to Arthur Brisbane, located at 101st Street and Fifth Ave., New York, on the Central Park wall, was designed and executed by Richmond Barthé, who has been commissioned to do the memorial to James Weldon Johnson

The New Social Security Act

THOUSANDS of men and women are going to receive United States Treasury checks for old-age and survivors insurance this year. In fact, the Social Security Board has estimated that by the end of the year a total of 912,000 men, women and children will be on its rolls. Theirs will be the distinction of belonging to the first group of retired workers or their survivors to be placed on the Federal Government's social security annuity rolls.

The Social Security Act of 1935 fixed 1942 for beginning payment of retirement insurance. The amendments to the act, signed by the President August 10, 1939, moved the date forward to January 1940.

But Congress went much further in its revision of the act. The amendments it adopted gave the country a much broader and a far more liberal social security program. The old-age insurance provisions underwent a general overhauling. The most fundamental change made was that converting the Federal Government's system for the payment of retirement insurance to aged wage earners into a system extending insurance protection not only to the workers, but to their families. As a result of this inclusion of the family unit, the system is now known as Old-Age and Survivors Insurance.

The amendments provide not only for the earlier payment of benefits but for more liberal payments, particularly in the earlier years. Coverage is extended to groups of workers not protected under the original law, and changes were made in the financing provisions which will result in substantial tax savings both for the workers and their employers. The new law brings under the coverage of the old-age and survivors insurance system the crews of American ships, the employees of national banks and state banks which are members of the Federal Reserve System, and employees of building-and-loan associations. These extensions of coverage, together with the provisions covering wage earners over 65, will bring about 1,100,000 additional persons into the system.

Although most of the amendments affect the Federal old-age insurance system, some changes were made in the provisions for unemployment insurance and those concerning public assistance, including those authorizing the granting of Federal money to the states for the carrying out of plans for aiding the needy aged, the blind, and dependent children. Increases in Federal grants to be made to states for the carrying out of public health and child welfare services and vocational rehabilitation were also authorized. Most of these changes in the act became effective on January 1, 1940.

ASK ABOUT YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

In every city there are offices of the Social Security Board. Usually the main office is in the Post Office building, with larger cities having branch offices elsewhere.

These offices are ready to answer questions about your social security. Go in and have your status explained. You may be entitled to money for yourself or your family or for dependent children.

Based on Average Wages

The amount of monthly benefits payable under the old-age and survivors insurance system will depend upon the worker's past wages but not, as under the old law, his total wages. It will be figured on his average monthly wage. This will result in a considerable increase in the monthly benefits of workers now of middle age and over. It brings, in 1940, a monthly benefit of $30.90 to the retired worker who has had, let us say, an average wage of $150 a month since 1936, if he is single. If he is married there will be additional benefits for his family.

A new formula has been devised for the determination of the amount of the monthly benefits. On the first $50 of a man's average monthly wage he will get 40 percent, and on the next $200 of his average wage, 10 percent. This basic amount is increased by 1 percent for each year in which the wage earner made at least $200 in employment covered by the act. While the new plan maintains close relationship between the rate of earnings and the rate of benefits, it also works out to the advantage of those who will have been in the system a long time before their benefits are due.

The employee's average monthly wage is obtained by dividing his total accumulated wages (under the system) by the number of months he could have worked under the system—that is, the number of months between 1936 (or his twenty-second birthday, if later) and the quarter in which he becomes eligible for benefits or dies.

An insured employee becomes eligible for benefits if he is 65 or more years of age, is fully insured, and files a claim for benefits. A worker is fully insured for life when he has received as much as $50 in covered employment in each of 40 calendar quarters; or if he has received $50 in each of enough calendar quarters to equal half the quarters elapsing between December 31, 1936 (or his attainment of age 21, if later) and the quarter in which he dies or attains age 65, but in not less than 6 calendar quarters. Such quarters of coverage count toward benefits even if they occur before the worker is 21 years old or after he is 65, but they must be subsequent to 1936. Wages earned between January 1, 1937 and January 1, 1939 by a person past 65 years of age do not count toward benefits, since the inclusion of wages received after age 65 did not become effective until January 1, 1939.

Family Receives Benefits

The change extending insurance protection to the members of a worker's family is one of the more significant in the development of a greater social security. The family is the basic unit in our society, and adequate security for the wage earner must, Congress felt, include the security of those dependent upon him. The man's wife will get a benefit equal to one-half of his, if she is 65 years old. If she is not that old at the time her husband retires, she will be entitled to this 50 percent allowance upon reaching that age. If her husband's benefit amounts, for example, to $30, she will get $15, making the allowance for the two $45. In the event of the death of her husband, the aged widow will receive an allowance equal to three-fourths of the benefit which her husband had been receiving.

If a worker dies at any age, leaving a widow and minor children, the widow will receive three-fourths and each child one-half of the amount of the monthly benefit to which he would have been entitled at the time of his death. If, for example, John Smith, who has earned an average of $100 a month, dies this year after having worked three years in covered employment, his monthly benefit would be $25.75, his widow would,

therefore, receive $19.31 and a minor child $12.88 a month. If the widow had two children in her care, the family would have $45.07 as long as both children were 16, or 18 if attending school.

In the event that a wage earner at the time of his death leaves no wife or children but there is a dependent parent, or parents, provision is made for an allowance to each equal to one-half of the benefit that would have been payable to the son.

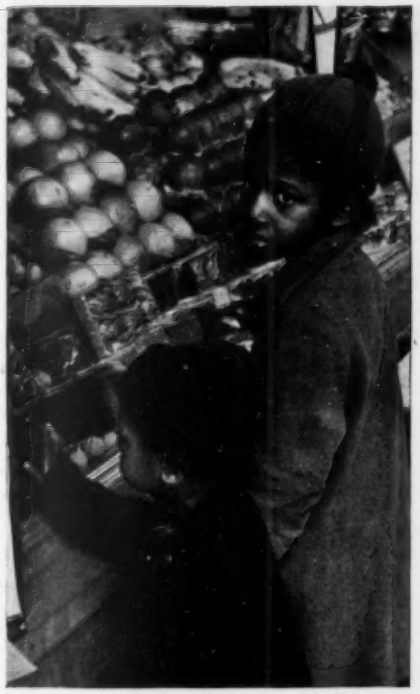
If there are no children, a widow who is not yet 65 will receive a lump-sum payment equal to 6 times the benefit of her husband. If there is no one to whom the monthly benefits are to be paid, provision is made that the individual who paid the funeral expenses may be reimbursed for them up to an amount equaling 6 times the worker's monthly benefit rate.

Lump Sum Payments

This is the only type of lump sums payable under the revised law. Under the old act a lump sum equal to 3½ per cent of the total taxable wage of the wage earner was payable to his heirs upon his death or to him, if he reached the age of 65 without having been able to qualify for monthly benefits. Under the old law the most that a worker becoming 65 years old before January 1, 1941, could have received was this lump sum. The new law makes it possible for him to qualify for monthly benefits after he is 65 years old even if he already has received a single cash payment. This means that the age barrier to obtaining Federal retirement insurance has been torn down. Even those who were already 65 when the Federal old age insurance system was set up and therefore have never been under the Federal program now have an opportunity to qualify for monthly benefits if they have earned as much as $50 a quarter in each of 6 calendar quarters since 1938.

The one stipulation is that wages earned after the worker is 65 years old, to be counted toward old-age insurance benefits, must have been earned in 1939 or later. Thus a worker who was 65 years old before 1937 and is still working can qualify for monthly benefits this spring if he has earned as much as $50 in each quarter of 1939 and the first 2 quarters of this year. In no case is it necessary for the wage earner to retire upon reaching the age of 65. He may continue to work as long as he wants. The accumulation of his wage credits will be continued until the day he decides to retire.

If a worker has already received a lump-sum payment because he has reached the age of 65 and retired, it will be deducted from the monthly payments which will be paid to him. For example, if he had been paid a lump-sum settlement of $75 and under the terms of the amended act was found to be entitled to monthly benefits of $25 per month, the Government would withhold the first 3 payments and regular monthly payments would begin in the fourth month, the $75 payment being regarded as an advance payment on his annuity.



FSA Photo

There will be more money for dependent children

The added administrative load resulting from the amendments falls principally on the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance. Anticipating the extra work and responsibility of handling insurance claims 2 years earlier, officials of that Bureau long ago began planning its program. Additional field offices have been established throughout the United States where claims will be filed, and any other needed service be extended to the public.

Tax Rate Same

The tax rate under the old-age insurance system for both the employer and employee has been 1 per cent of the employee's wages up to $3,000 a year since its establishment on January 1, 1937. This rate was scheduled to rise in 1940 to 1½ per cent for both the employer and employee. Under the amendments, however, the rate will stay at its present level—1 per cent—until 1943. This freezing of the tax rate is estimated to save the employers and the employees approximately $825,000,000.

No change has been made in the method of paying the taxes and reporting wages. The employer will continue to deduct the employee's tax from his wages when paid and send this with his own tax to the Collector of Internal Revenue every 3 months. On this tax return he reports the amount of each employee's wages. His wage report will continue to include the social security account number as well as the name of each employee. The Bureau of Internal Revenue transmits to the Social Security Board this wage report, the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance recording the reported wages to the respective social security accounts of wage earners.

Under the original act when an employee was 65 years of age or older, neither he nor his employer was required to pay a tax on his wages. This has been changed by the amendments. Taxes now must be paid on the wages of employees even though past the age of 65, the same as on those of any other employees.

The taxes on wages of those past 65 are retroactive to January 1, 1939. Employers, therefore, are required to pay taxes on wages paid to such workers at any time during 1939. The employees' taxes on such wages must also be paid, the employer having the responsibility of deducting the 1 per cent employee tax for past quarters of 1939 from the wages of persons over 65 and paying it to the Collector of Internal Revenue.

Employees Must Get Statements

One provision of the amended law contains specifications concerning the statement of tax deductions which employers are required to furnish their employees from the beginning of 1940. Formerly the Bureau of Internal Revenue had held that any notation which would permit the employee to check the accuracy of the deduction was sufficient. This notation might even be included on a pay check which would, of course, be returned to the employer.

The new requirement is that the statement of tax deduction must be "in a form suitable for the retention by the employee." This amendment further requires that "each statement shall cover a calendar year or 1, 2, 3, or 4 calendar quarters, whether or not within the same calendar year, and shall show the name of the employer, the name of the employee, the period covered by the statement, the total amount of wages paid within such period, and the amount of the tax imposed . . . with respect to such wages. Each statement shall be furnished to the employee not later than the last day of the second calendar

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Has Slavery Gone with the Wind in Georgia?

By Charles Rowan

Here is an eye-witness story of a peonage trial in Georgia written by a young native white Georgian who has no patience with the "magnolia blossom" South—and its modern slavery under the name of peonage

MORE than two thousand Georgians planked down ten dollars each for a seat at the world premiere of "Gone With the Wind" in Atlanta during December. They stormed the box office to be among that envied number who would be the first to relive with Clark Gable and the magnolia blossoms those glorious nostalgic days of the old South "befo de wah." I had a free seat recently at a drama which brought me to the sharp realization that the "glorious days" of slavery in Georgia have not quite "gone with the wind."

The somber black robe of a Federal court judge was the only costume in evidence, while the principal actors were two plain looking McDuffie county landowners and an overall-clad Negro farm hand. As the three-day drama unfolded in the Federal District Court in Augusta, Georgia, I got the distinct notion that I was getting the smelly side of that old "magnolia blossom" South that has lived on in modern landlord-tenant relationships.

The ancestors of Robert Parker, a 28-year-old Negro farm laborer, were bound to their landlord by a system generally referred to as slavery. When a slave tried to escape from the plantation his owner most likely brought him back by force and flogged him. When Robert Parker tried to leave his landlord's farm in Georgia in 1939 he was brought back forcibly on two different occasions and severely beaten, according to a Federal grand jury which indicted the landowners on three separate charges of peonage. The only difference between the two systems is that in "Gone With the Wind" days the Negro was bound to the landlord by a legalized property system, while today it is the simple device of being in debt that binds him to the soil.

Flogged with Plowline

The landowners accused of violating the Federal statute defining peonage as a crime were two brothers, Fred and Roy Reeves, of Thomson, Georgia, the old home of Tom Watson, the noted Populist leader. According to the indictment, these two landowners held Robert Parker in a state of peonage—forcing him to work against his will in payment of a debt—and returned him forcibly when he tried to escape. The defendants admitted that they had brought the Negro back to the farm and that Roy had flogged him while his brother Fred stood by with "a pistol in his pocket." Roy testified that he struck the Negro "about 35 or 40 times" with a plowline. (Fred said about 40 or 50 times). Asked by Judge William H. Barrett if he meant to hurt the Negro, Roy laughed and said he guess he "meant to hurt him a little bit."

The beating occurred on July 27, 1939. On October 9 pictures of the Negro's back were made by a deputy in the Richmond (Augusta) county jail, showing bruises and sores resulting from the beating. Two physicians introduced as witnesses by the government testified Parker was in a horrible condition, while another introduced by the defense referred to the wounds as "scratches."

Parker testified that the Reeves brothers had returned him forcibly to their farm on two different occasions, to work out a debt of $36.76. The debt was originally owed to M. A. Culpepper, McDuffie county lumber dealer, but was paid by Fred Reeves who said the Negro wanted to work for him.

Payment Refused

Parker declared he went to work on the Reeves farm in January, 1939. About June 10, he told the court, he offered to pay Mr. Reeves his money but it was declined and he went back to work. On July 26 Parker said he left the farm for Dearing, a town several miles away, but that the two brothers overtook him, forced him into their car at the point of a gun, and took him back to the farm where they beat him. The landowners admitted overtaking the Negro and bringing him back to the farm, but insisted they did not compel him "against his will."

The next day, according to the Negro's testimony, he went to the county jail at Thomson seeking the protection of the law. The two brothers drove up to the jail and told him to get in their car, assuring him that nothing would happen to him. They took him back to the farm a second time where the flogging admitted by the defendants took place.

When they got back to the farm he said he was struck several times and when he tried to resist he was bound and taken into the barn. In the barn, he declared, the two brothers started whipping him with a plow line that had been wet and dragged in the sand. "That didn't bring blood quick enough for them," he said, "so they got a leather buggy harness and started." Fred Reeves admitted on questioning by the prosecution that the Negro was standing up when Roy started the beating but "fell" down on his side before it was over. Twice he used the word "fell" and hurriedly changed it to "lay" on being questioned. On close questioning he answered affirmatively the sardonic query of the prosecutor, "So he just *lay* down while he was being beaten so he would be in a more comfortable position, did he? Just like he was lying down on a feather bed?"

Witness Threatened

Colley Montgomery, a McDuffie county farmer, testified he saw Parker last July after the beating. He said the Negro was in "a horrible condition when I saw him in his bed." Montgomery also admitted that he had appealed for protection after he was accosted in the courtroom corridor and threatened with a whipping for appearing as a government witness. He identified the man who had threatened him when the prosecution brought the alleged threatener into the courtroom. (It is interesting to note that although a white man, this witness made himself liable to the same treatment accorded the Negro by appearing in his behalf.) Montgomery also declared in court that "Parker told me to get him to jail 'before they killed me'."

Although admitting freely the beating of Parker the defendants claimed they did so only after the farm hand had threatened them with a gun.

The defense called eleven witnesses to testify as to the good character and reputation of the accused men. A banker, a sawmill operator, and other landowners were questioned as to the reputation of the Reeves brothers. The testimony of one of them was stricken from the record after Judge Barrett obtained his admission that he did not know what the word "reputation"

means. All were unanimous in declaring the reputation of the defendants for peaceableness and non-violence was "good". The prosecutor expressed amazement that the brutal beating of the farm hand could be reconciled with a reputation of peaceableness. On a visit to Thomson the day the trial ended I found it easy to believe that the landowners of McDuffie county could make such a reconciliation. One typical remark was that what the Reeves brothers had done "was no more than anybody else there would do." In fact, it is not surprising that such actions, for the purpose of "keeping the nigger in his place" might increase their prestige in the eyes of their fellow white men.

In making his plea to the jury the defense attorney declared the brothers were trying to serve as "peace-makers" in trying to make the Negro "patch up" his differences with another Negro on the farm. The prosecuting attorney said it was "unbelievable" that a Negro in the deep South would jump on two white men just because he was mad with another Negro. He also contended that no Negro both sane and sober (and no evidence had been introduced to the contrary) would have gone to the county jail and knocked on the door to seek protection while carrying a concealed pistol in violation of the law. He termed preposterous the claim that the landowners advanced that Parker had gone there not seeking protection, but "to see his aunt." They admitted on questioning that they knew nothing about any aunt of his being in jail.

Decries Barbarism

In urging the jury to convict the brothers on the three indictments of peonage, the prosecuting attorney said the defendants had treated Parker as no decent man would treat a dog. "Why we even have a law in the State to prevent such inhumane treatment of animals." He urged them to return a verdict that would serve as a deterrent for such men taking the law into their own hands. Such incidents give our State a reputation for "barbarism" instead of civilization, he declared. The attorney read from court decisions in peonage cases which declared the jury must take into consideration the difference in status between white and colored persons in judging what constitutes "compelling" a man to work against his will.

The government summed up its case in declaring that by violence and threats of violence the landowners had forced the Negro to work against his will, had brought him back on two different occasions when he sought to leave the farm, and had beaten him so severely the second time that he was confined to bed for days, unable to even lie upon his back. The defendants admitted bringing him back both times and flogging him the second time, but insisted that the Negro came back with them "voluntarily."

Charging the jury, the judge said that by their own admission the landowners were guilty under the State law of assault and battery, but that the issue in the case was solely that of peonage. (Peonage is a Federal offense while assault and battery is a crime against the State). The flogging must be considered only in so far as it would throw light on whether or not they were "forcing" the Negro to work against his will, he advised.

Hung Jury

After deliberating for several hours the jury returned "hopelessly divided", according to the foreman. Judge Barrett sent them back "to try a little longer" but after several more hours a decision could not be reached, and a mistrial was declared. The prosecution declared it would bring the case to trial again in the next term of court in April, 1940.

The assistant district attorney who argued the government's case was frankly pleased that some of the jurors had held out so tenaciously for conviction. In the face of deeply entrenched tradition even this seemed an encouraging sign. In many peonage cases the State acquittal of white men indicted for holding Negroes in peonage had been almost instantaneous. In some cases the jury had hardly closed the door to the jury room before coming back with a verdict of not guilty. The jury in this case was composed of twelve white men, the defense attorney having "struck" five Negroes whose names appeared on the jury panel. However, the trial was remarkably free of any appeals to race prejudice. As a native Georgian I was deeply impressed with the impartiality of the Federal court on this question—an impartiality which would indeed be a rarity in the State courts. As one Federal official remarked, "If any appeals to race prejudice had been made Judge Barrett would have come down like an axe."

Not "Land of Free"

In the vigorous prosecution of such cases lies the only hope for breaking through this callous barbarism which permits a southern white landowner to be a "good respectable citizen" while lashing a Negro farm hand into a mass of bloody bruises. As one after another of the white citizens testified as to the "good reputation" of the defendants, I could not help thinking how they were all "hanging together" in the old Southern custom of keeping the Negro in submission. As long as southerners can get by with beating a man almost insensible and laugh and joke about it in a court room we have little cause to go around crooning about "a land that is free."

Peonage—holding a person in involuntary servitude for payment of a debt—is merely a modern word for slavery. There seem to be plenty of landowners, however, who still want the system by another name. That is the main reason a host of southern landlords are so anxious to keep their tenants and farm hands in debt to them from year to year. It is only the extreme cases where the lash has to be brought out to compel a cropper or laborer to work out his debt. In literally thousands of cases the subtle device of credit is a far more simple and expedient way of keeping the disinherited farm worker in a state of perpetual bondage. As long as the South permits such a system to exist we shall stand as wholesale violators of the law of the land.

I cannot say that I envy those few thousand Georgians who took a ten dollar trip back through the lavender and old lace of Southern history in Atlanta on December 15. The drama I attended was less spectacular, but I believe infinitely more significant for the future of our region than any number of world premieres.

Gone With the Wind?

By Andy Razaf

Gone with the wind? You're wrong, my son
Democracy is on the run.
Although the Civil War was fought,
Its sacrifices came to naught;
The South is far from being done—
Gone with the wind? You're wrong, my son.

We have a land divided still
That meekly bows to southern will,
With color prejudice the rule
In press, church, industry and school.
Where state rights have prevailed and won—
Gone with the wind? You're wrong, my son.

What of the black man's liberty?
Today, he is half slave, half free,
Denied his rights on every side,
Jim Crowed, lynched and crucified
He's even barred in Washington—
Gone with the wind? You're wrong, my son!

Books by Negro Authors in 1939

Paragraph Reviews for the Guidance of CRISIS Readers

This annual review of Negro writers is presented by Arthur B. Spingarn as it has been for the past three years

THIS annual resume of books and pamphlets (like the lists which have appeared previously in THE CRISIS) notices all the works in English written by Negroes and published in 1939 that have come to the attention of the compiler. It includes also a few works published in 1938 which reached him too late for insertion in last year's list. It is necessarily incomplete and, as heretofore, omits mention of works by Negroes in foreign languages, a number of which are important and merit separate review. No comments are made on books which have been reviewed in THE CRISIS (other than to indicate where such reviews may be found), on books which the compiler has not read or on the pamphlets separately listed. (Note: All the books listed may be ordered from THE CRISIS Bookshop.)

I. BOOKS

AKIGA'S STORY. Translated and annotated by Rupert East. London, Oxford University Press for the International Institute of African Languages and Cultures. 436 pp. 21sh.

A fascinating account of the history and customs of the Tiv Tribe by one of its members, written by him in his mother tongue and translated into English and annotated by the editor.

ATTAWAY, WILLIAM. Let Me Breathe the Thunder. New York, Doubleday, Doran & Co. 267 pp. $2.00.

A moving story written with restraint, yet having great force and emotional qualities. It is particularly significant in that it is the first successful novel about whites written by an American Negro.

BOND, FREDERICK W. The Negro and the Drama. Washington, The Associated Publishers, Inc. $2.00.

BOND, HORACE MANN. Negro Education in Alabama. A study in cotton and steel. Washington, The Associated Publishers. 358 pp. $3.25.

Dr. Bond has broken new ground in this study and has indicated the necessity for a reexamination of the history of Reconstruction. A valuable and important contribution to the subject.

BONTEMPS, ARNA. Drums at Dusk. New York, The Macmillan Company. 226 pp. $2.50.

Following his last fine historical novel, Mr. Bontemps here in beautiful poetic prose tells of the first few days of the uprising which ultimately led to the independance of Haiti. His story is dramatic without melodrama and though Toussaint appears but briefly the author manages to convey his inherent greatness.

CALIXTE, D. P. Haiti. The Calvary of a Soldier. New York, Wendell Malliet & Co. 125 pp. $1.25.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for November at page 346.

CAMPBELL, E. SIMMS. In Jazzmen, edited by Frederick Ramsey Jr. and Charles Edward Smith, New York, Harcourt, Brace & Co. 360 pp. $2.75.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for December at page 378.

CLAYTON, HORACE C. (with George S. Mitchell). The Black Worker and the New Unions. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press. 473 pp. $4.00.

Based largely upon first hand investigations, the authors have studied the circumstances which attend the drive, under the impetus of the New Deal, for labor organization as it runs counter to race prejudice, with special references to the iron and steel and meat packing industries and railroad shops. Well and objectively done.

COBB, W. MONTAGUE. The First Negro Medical Society. Washington, The Associated Publishers. 159 pp. $2.15.

A history of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia, the first Negro Medical Society formed in America and probably in the world, from its foundation in 1884 to 1939.

COOK, MERCER W. Portraits Americans. Boston, D. C. Heath & Co. 83 pp. 48c.

Short selections by French authors portraying about 20 distinguished Americans. Edited with notes and vocabulary, admirably adapted for school and college use.

DUBOIS, W. E. B. Black Folk Then and Now. New York, Henry Holt & Co. 410 pp. $3.50.

Based on his book, THE NEGRO, originally published in 1915, Dr. DuBois has written in his usual brilliant manner the story of the Negro in Africa and America, amplified, revised, and brought up to date.

FRAZIER, E. FRANKLIN. The Negro Family in the United States. Chicago, University of Chicago Press. 686 pp. $4.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for November at page 346.

HENDERSON, EDWIN BANCROFT. The Negro in Sport. Washington, The Associated Publishers. 371 pp. $2.00.

A full account of the Negroes' activities in all forms of sports, professional and amateur, with ample statistics and well illustrated, containing much information not to be found elsewhere.

HOOD, MARY CHALMERS. America Makes Her Choice. Philadelphia, Dorrance & Co. $1.50.

HURSTON, ZORA NEALE. Moses, Man of the Mountain. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co. 351 pp. $3.00.

The story of the life and death of Moses as seen through the eyes of a Negro. It is a narrative of power, poetically told in rich prose, and is at once racy and reverent.

JAMES, C. L. R. A History of Negro Revolts. London, Fact. 85 pp. 6 d.

A brief account of Negro insurrections in the West Indies, the United States and Africa, interestingly told from the Marxist standpoint.

JAMES, C. L. R. Translator of Stalin by Boris Souvarine. New York, Alliance Book Corporation. 690 pp. $4.00.

JOHNSON, CHARLES S. and DAVIS, ALLISON. In Race Relations and the Race Problem. Edited by Edgar T. Thompson. Durham, N. C., Duke University Press. 338 pp. $3.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for January, 1940 at page 28.

JOHNSON, KATHRYN M. Stealing a Nation. Chicago, Pyramid Publishing Co. 53 pp. 50c.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for October at page 318.

JUST, ERNEST EVERETT. The Biology of the Cell Surface. Philadelphia, P. Blackstone & Co., Inc. 392 pp. $5.50.

A most important contribution to science by one of the most eminent American biologists and the first Spingarn medallist. It cannot be too highly recommended as the best book on the subject and the first exhaustive one in English.

LAMBERT, CALVIN C. Poems of a West Indian. London, "Poetry of Today." 35 pp. 2sh. 6d.

A slim volume of respectable but uninspired verse.

MOORLAND FOUNDATION, CATALOGUE OF BOOKS IN. Washington, Howard University. 501 pp.

A useful check list of books relating to the Negro in the Howard university library. Compiled by workers of the W. P. A. with Margaret R. Hunton and Ethel Williams as supervisors and Dorothy B. Porter as director.

POWELL SR., A. CLAYTON. Palestine and Saints in Caesar's House. New York, Richard R. Smith. 217 pp. $1.50.

The first five chapters of this book recount Dr. Powell's travels in Palestine; the second part contains ten of his eloquent sermons.

RAMSEY, OBADIAH ANDERSON. The Sun Has No Heat. New York, the author. 204 pp. $2.50.

A theory of the cosmos in which the author attempts to prove scientifically his novel theory.

REID, IRA DE A. The Negro Immigrant, His Background, Characteristics and Social

(*Continued on page* 50)

Alabama Heals Her Crippled Children

By B. B. Walcott

Alabama is the only state with a Negro orthopedic surgeon at work on crippled children under a state program, says this writer. Soon a new unit will be erected at Tuskegee Institute for the treatment of infantile paralysis cases through a grant from the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation

ALABAMA became the nation's model a few years ago for a state program of child welfare. It is not surprising then that Alabama is a pace-setter for the other southern states in her program of the care and rehabilitation of crippled children. And, in one respect at least, this phase of her progress is unparalleled north or south: Alabama is the only state where a Negro is employed as orthopedic surgeon. One Alabama crippled children's unit is located at the John A. Andrew Memorial hospital, Tuskegee Institute, and is directed by Dr. John W. Chenault, young colored orthopedic surgeon.

Alabama has four other treatment centers at different points throughout the state where semi-annual district clinics are held. Through the cooperation of the county welfare agencies, health units, PTA's, teachers, agricultural agents, physicians, crippled children are brought to these clinics for examination. It is estimated that about 80% of the crippled children in Alabama have been touched. Of this number a much smaller percentage has been hospitalized.

Since the establishment of the cripple clinic at Tuskegee Institute as a state orthopedic unit in January, 1937, between 75 and 80 Negro children have been treated at the hospital, but approximately 500 cases have been seen by Dr. Chenault at the district clinics where he has assisted.

President F. D. Patterson says that the Tuskegee Institute unit has been able to treat so high a percentage of the number seen because of the wholehearted cooperation of Alabama State Department of Education, Federal Social Security and Children's Bureau, and the Rosenwald Fund, and because of the facilities of the John A. Andrew hospital, given to Tuskegee by Mrs. Elizabeth Mason of Boston.

Grant of $161,350

Early in 1939 the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation recognized the work being done at Tuskegee by authorizing the establishment of a National Infantile Paralysis unit at Tuskegee Institute, with a grant of $161,350.

Preceding the final authorization, Dr. Paul de Kruif, internationally-known bacteriologist and author closely associated with the Foundation, spent several days at Tuskegee studying the work being done by Tuskegee Institute in general and the orthopedic unit, directed by Dr. Chenault, in particular.

About the same time the trustees of the Rosenwald Fund decided on Tuskegee Institute as the place for the fall meeting of the board. Dr. E. R. Embree, chairman of the board, while he would, at the time, make no specific commitments regarding expansion of the Tuskegee orthopedic unit, did make it clear that the Rosenwald trustees were definitely concerned with improvement of rural health and the training of those entrusted with the health problems in rural areas.

Dr. M. O. Bousfield, medical director of the Rosenwald Fund, from the beginning of the state orthopedic unit had made frequent visits and extended helpful advice to Tuskegee officials concerned with the expansion of this much-needed medical service for Negro children.

Just how great is the need for this special service to crippled children may

(*Continued on page 62*)

Quarles

Right, Dr. John W. Chenault, in charge of orthopedic work at Tuskegee. Below, a small patient gets his daily massage

Polk

BILL OF RIGHTS
ANTI-LYNCHING BILL
U.S. SENATE
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
" THERE IS NO PLACE IN THIS COUNTRY FOR MOB RULE. "
ROLLIN KIRBY

LEGAL ADVICE.

Courtesy New York Post

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS
Advisory Board: Dr. Louis T. Wright, Lewis Gannett, Walter White

The Best Chance to Check Lynching

JAMMED through the House under the leadership of its sponsor, Rep. Joseph A. Gavagan, the federal anti-lynching bill faces the senate at a time when it has the best chance it ever has had to be passed. The votes to pass it are there in the senate. Even its foes concede that if it ever came to a vote it would pass by, say, 2 to 1.

This has been the situation for years. A majority of the senate favors this bill. A majority of the people of the country favors it. But by the rules of the senate a small minority (a dozen men or less) is able to block the will of the people and keep the measure from coming to a decision. The filibuster has been used by senators from the Deep South states (where most lynchings have occurred) and by the late Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, to hold up this legislation.

This year the filibuster is being prepared, as usual, by Senator Tom Connally of Texas, a state which has staged more than 500 lynchings.

No Action by States

IT is argued by these defenders of the right to lynch without federal interference that the states are taking care of this crime and there is no need for government action. The fact is that the states have taken practically no action to arrest, prosecute or punish lynchers. In 99.2% of the lynchings no action has been taken by the states.

It is argued that lynchings have declined and that this is proof that the states have acted. The truth of the matter is that the threat of federal action against lynching, the constant agitation for a federal law, is what has brought down the total. Remove that threat and lynchings will again climb to higher totals. The only thing the lynchers and the complacent communities which tolerate them fear is federal action.

And then there is the old argument of states rights. On this issue we are very certain, from the record, that we cannot trust the rights of Negro citizens to the towns, counties, and states of the Deep South. And the southern senators who grow so vehement about states rights are not in a very logical position for they have accepted—even sought—federal action in their states on other matters. States rights in the anti-lynching argument means simply the right to lynch.

Lynching in a Democracy

IN addition to the rebuttals above there is the question of the honor of the United States of America before the world. Ours is the only nation which tolerates lynching. It claims to be the greatest democracy on earth. It has condemned dictatorship and exalted the democratic process. It has voiced its shock and horror at persecution and cruelty reported from other nations. For every downtrodden people everywhere it pours out its sympathy and material relief.

But within its own borders it can ignore the flouting of law and order, the mockery of the Bill of Rights, the brutalities and bestialities of lynching mobs whose deeds equal or surpass those of any nation we have seen fit to scorn.

This anti-lynching bill is more than just that. In the words of Rep. Robert J. Corbett, speaking in the House:

"The direct effect of eliminating a few lynchings a year is not so vital except to the persons who are lynched and their friends and relatives. The indirect effect of having such a bill passed . . . is to raise the 13,000,000 Negroes closer to the status of free and equal human beings enjoying the full protection of the United States Constitution."

Technique of Terror

IN the senate filibuster of 1938 Senator Pat Harrison of the lynching commonwealth of Mississippi acknowledged this point, at the same time admitting the real reason why the states want no federal law. He said, in effect, "If we pass this law, the next thing will be an effort to let the Negroes vote."

So, lynching is not for the protection of much-maligned southern white womanhood, but for the control of the Negro population. It is to keep them terrorized, obedient, tractable; to keep them from agitating for the ballot, for education, for employment at decent wages—in short, to keep them as sub-citizens.

It all boils down to the fact that the southern senators do not want the Constitution of the United States to function for Negroes. The issue in the senate is whether the rights of a black human being in this country shall be determined by the Bill of Rights or by the personal prejudices and emotions of any white hoodlum.

Those Who Sneer

THERE is a tendency to sneer at this effort for the anti-lynching bill by raising the cry of "politics." It is said that this is an election year and that this bill is pure politics.

Politics? Election year? Why should anyone sneer at a *Negro* effort to bring political pressure to bear to save a few Negro lives, to impress upon the states that the Constitution protects *all* citizens? One would think from the comments that the use of politics is a peculiar Negro "crime." Does anyone suggest that white people, rich people, manufacturers, farmers, importers, exporters, labor and all other sections of the population *never* use political pressure to get what they want?

These people who sneer have never known the sheer terror of utter helplessness and defenselessness. Or had their relatives or friends shot down in cold blood with a deputy sheriff's gun "borrowed" by a mob leader (Columbia, Tenn.); or burned alive on top of a schoolhouse (Maryville, Mo.); or roasted alive in the steel vault of a courthouse (Sherman, Tex.); or burned in a public square (Princess Anne, Md.); or shot like rabbits on the run (Aiken, S. C.); or tortured with a blow torch while tied to a tree (Duck Hill, Miss.).

Sneer? Who dares to sneer? Use politics? Use anything!

Filibuster Can Be Smashed

SENATOR Tom Connally and his filibuster *can be broken* if the Negro voters of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky and West Virginia will put on the screws and keep them on.

The Democratic party needs votes to stay in power. It can be notified to choose between the Connallys, the Bilbos, the Ellenders and their "oratory"—and the probable loss of 200 electoral votes. The Republicans are gloating over recapturing four Negro wards in Philadelphia by margins varying from 100 to 400 votes. If the Philadelphia returns mean anything at all, it is that a shift of a few thousand votes in each state will decide the electoral vote.

We have as much right to use political power for an anti-lynching bill as other groups have to use it for their objectives. Let's do it and not apologize for it.

Johnson Memorial

(*Continued from page* 41)

studied painting at the Art Institute in Chicago to emerge later as a sculptor. Three examples of his work are in the permanent collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City and there are many other examples in private collections here. His work has been shown at art exhibitions in Chicago, Nashville, Washington, Dallas, New Orleans, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Baltimore, and at the New York World's Fair, where his life-sized group of Mother and Son attracted much attention in the Contemporary art building. In New York he has held three "one-man" shows, the latest at the Arden galleries on Park avenue last winter. He has also exhibited at "one-man" shows in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Washington, Madison, Wisconsin, and Chicago. At the moment of writing, his newest figure, "Boy with Flute," is on view at the current show at the Whitney museum.

He has made portraits of John Gielgud as Hamlet, Rose McClendon, the Negro tragedian, Feral Benga, the African dancer, Fania Marinoff as Ariel in "The Tempest," Harald Kreutzberg, Maurice Evans as Richard II, Gipsy Rose Lee, Jimmie Daniels, the Negro singer, and Ram Gopal, the Hindu Temple Dancer. At present he is working on a bust of Katharine Cornell as Juliet.

In the preface to the catalogue of his show at the Arden galleries I wrote: "What Barthé is actually seeking are the spiritual values inherent in moving figures. He says if you find these the surfaces will take care of themselves." The Black and Unknown Bards should offer Barthé an excellent opportunity for the search and for the eventual capture of spiritual values. Indeed, the complete success of the undertaking, from any point of view, rests on the assumption that he will do just that.

His group of Negroes with uplifted faces should stimulate an honest pride in the achievements of their race in Negro youth for generations to come, while it should also bring it about that others, at present not fully aware of the cultural contributions the Negro has made to America, will seek to learn more about this race.

The James Weldon Johnson Memorial Committee solicits gifts towards the termination of this project and directs that they may be sent to the committee at 69 Fifth avenue, New York. Cheques may be made payable either to Theodore Roosevelt, chairman, or to Gene Buck, treasurer. It is the hope of the committee that interest in the project will be sufficiently wide spread so that contributions will be sent in from all parts of America, not only in dollars, but also in nickels and dimes, and even in pennies. The James Weldon Johnson Memorial Committee is composed of close friends of the great Negro. This is a list of members: Theodore Roosevelt, chairman; Hon. Fiorello H. LaGuardia, honorary chairman; Gene Buck, treasurer and chairman of the executive committee; Walter White, secretary; and the following vice-chairmen: Sterling A. Brown, Harry T. Burleigh, Elmer A. Carter, W. C. Handy, J. Rosamond Johnson, E. George Payne, Arthur B. Spingarn, and Carl Van Vechten.

Negro Authors

(*Continued from page* 46)

Adjustment 1899-1937. New York, Columbia University Press. 261 pp. $3.50.

This, the first extended study of the Negro immigrant in the United States, is a serious work of scholarship; its value would have been enhanced had the material on the immigrants' background leaned less heavily on secondary sources.

REDDING, J. SAUNDERS. To Make a Poet Black. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press. 142 pp. $1.50.

Reviewed in The Crisis for October at page 316.

SAVAGE, W. SHERMAN. The Controversy Over the Distribution of Abolition Literature, 1830-1860. Washington, The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, Inc. 141 pp. $2.10.

The first work on this important and interesting subject. It is a competent work of scholarship, although it fails to treat the literature written by Negroes as fully as might have been wished.

SCOTT, ANNIE. George Simpson Brite. Boston, The Meador Publishing Co. 154 pp. $1.50.

A collection of short stories about a mischievious boy and his pranks at school.

SCOTT, J. IRVING. Living With Others. Boston, The Meador Publishing Co. $1.50.

A manual of practical guidance in educational matters which will be found useful by teachers in high schools and junior colleges.

TURPIN, WATERS E. O Canaan! New York, Doubleday, Doran & Co. 311 pp. $2.50.

An interesting novel by the author of THESE LOW GROUNDS about a group of southern migrants in Chicago. Though it has considerable merit it does not quite measure up to the importance of its subject.

WILKERSON, DOXEY A. Special Problems on Negro Education. Washington, Government Printing Office. 170 pp. 25c.

A thorough and comprehensive study, indispensable to any one interested in education or the race problem.

WOODSON, CARTER G. African Heroes and Heroines. Washington, The Associated Publishers. 249 pp. $2.00.

Short lives of eminent Africans by this distinguished historian.

WRIGHT, RICHARD. In 50 Best American Short Stories 1915-1939, edited by Edward J. O'Brien. Boston, Houghton, Miflin & Co. 868 pp. $3.00.

This veteran authority on the short story has selected Wright's "Bright and Morning Star" (pp. 810-850) as one of the two best American short stories published in 1939.

YANCEY, BESSIE WOODSON. Echoes from the Hills. A Book of Poems. Washington, The Associated Publishers. 62 pp. $1.10.

A collection of verse in dialect and academic English by a sister of Carter G. Woodson.

II. PAMPHLETS

Among the pamphlets published in 1939, the following may be noted:

BROWN, STERLING A. The Negro in American Literature, In James Weldon Johnson Memorial pamphlet. Nashville.

CALIVER, AMBROSE. Vocational education and guidance for Negroes. Washington.

CALIVER, AMBROSE. (with David T. Blose). Statistics of the education of Negroes. 1933-34 and 1935-36. Washington.

CANADY, HERMAN G. Psychology in Negro institutions. Institute, W. Va.

COLES, HOWARD C. City directory of Negro business and progress. 1939-40. Rochester.

DAVIS, JOHN W. Wilberforce University as a cause. Wilberforce.

DUBOIS, W. E. B. The revelation of St. Orgne the damned. Nashville.

FORD, JAMES W. Anti-semitism, the struggle for Democracy and the Negro people. New York.

GREENE, HARRY W. Two decades of research and creative writing at West Virginia Institute. Institute, W. Va.

HAMPTON CONFERENCE. Findings of the first annual conference on adult education and the Negro. Hampton, Va.

HUBERT, JAMES H. The life of Abraham Lincoln. New York.

JACKSON, JOHN G. Ethiopia and the origin of civilization. New York.

JAMES, C. L. R. Why Negroes should oppose the war, by J. R. Johnson. New York.

THE NEGRO under Capitalism. Detroit.

ROGERS, J. A. 100 Amazing Facts About the Negro. New York.

WALTON, LESTER A. Education. Commencement address. Monrovia, Liberia.

WASHINGTON, BOOKER T. Quotations of Booker T. Washington, compiled by E. Davidson Washington, Tuskegee.

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From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

"White Supremacy," and Then What?

The Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala.

WE believe that if the Democrats of the southern states, particularly of Alabama, are in agreement upon any one principle it is the thing called "white-supremacy." Apparently our Negro neighbors and co-workers are reconciled to the *fait accompli,* for one rarely hears any protests from them about the arrangement.

Thirty years ago James K. Vardaman of Mississippi and Tom Watson of Georgia, among others, were deeply concerned about the place of the white man in southern civilization. Historically when every other device of eloquence failed in the south the political orator has known he could reach into his sleeve and pull out a card containing the words and music of that old-timer, "Run, Nigger, Run—Th' Patrol Will Ketch You!" This rarely failed to fetch the goggle-eyed rabble.

But it seems strange that in 1940, which is a year far up in front in the machine age that with all its beneficent gifts to man, its challenge to human genius, regardless of color or class, to suggest a formula for the solution of common problems, its challenge to human brains to find a counter-agent for the technological displacement of men and women who ask only that they be permitted to work for a living and give their families just a taste of pleasant juices.

We had hope that "white supremacy" as a political issue was dead and buried so that the rest of us with any talent for thinking rationally and constructively and with a sense of social responsibility about common human problems might at last devote our talents, energies and our influence unreservedly to the respectable cause of achieving a higher, richer, sweeter standard of living for all God's chillun.

But what we hope for and what we receive, we long since learned are not always one and the same. Monday night at the Jackson Day Dinner in Montgomery, Congressman Sam Hobbs of the Fourth District, one of the ablest and one of the most aggressive members of the lower house of congress was the principal speaker. We were glad that Sam had been invited to make The Speech, for we are soft on Sam. We think he has "plenty on the ball." We know he is clean, we know he is decent. But we must tell him that we were disappointed in one salient note that he sounded in his oration. He hollered "Nigger!" when there wasn't a woodpile in a thousand miles of his audience. He pleaded for "white supremacy" at an hour when civilized men everywhere should be more deeply concerned with salvaging the jewels of our western civilization, and defending our common firesides against the Hun and the Slav.

There are 12,000,000 Negroes in the United States. Because most of them live in the south most of them are politically helpless. If they were not politically helpless they would not be jeered by political orators, they would not be subject to humiliation. Couldn't Sam have left this out of his speech?

We have our "white supremacy" now. But what else have we? Have we enough to go on in the bad years? Have we enough to pass around equitably? Have we solved the problem of employment for whites and blacks? Have we provided an honest living for men and women of all colors and classes? Have we solved the problems of our agriculture and our processing industries? Have we solved the problem of wage levels? Have we solved the problem of giving all our children, white and black, a fair chance to acquire an education? What have we done to put flowers on the lawns of our humbler folk and paint on their wretched houses? What have we done to improve their eating habits? What have we done to give them a sense of citizenship? What have we done to strike down the diseases of infection and malnutrition? What are we doing to prepare all of our people for the ways and responsibilities of democracy?

Here in the south two races are fighting side by side to raise the common standard of living. For a thousand years hence these two races will live here in our south. Why must one be forever flattered and the other jeered and despised by our leaders? We are just asking because we do not pretend to know.

We are sorry that Sam Hobbs gave any thought to "white supremacy" about which there is so little uncertainty, and devoted his talents so sparingly to the great human problem of survival in a troubled world.

THE CRISIS, of course, does not agree wholly with this editorial, but the main thesis that the South needs to do something besides preach of white supremacy is worthy of note, coming as it does from a leading daily paper.

Farewell to Heywood Broun

By Henry Lee Moon

THEY say of Heywood Broun that he was the intimate of the great and the near-great. He knew the leaders of the Nation in politics, sports, labor, industry, and the arts. This is only half the truth of Broun for he knew, too, the rank and file. For him there were no lines of color or class or creed that separated him from humanity. He counted as friend, Negro and white, Jew and gentile, business executive and labor leader, conservative and radical. He was, in truth, a citizen of the world.

Among the underprivileged groups which will feel most keenly the death of Heywood Broun are the Negroes for Broun's great spirit included them always in his crusades

It was natural, almost inevitable, for Heywood Broun to take the lead in founding the American Newspaper Guild. Perhaps no one else could have succeeded in organizing so individualistic a group of workers as the American journalists. It was natural, too, that under his leadership the ANG should open its doors to Negro newspapermen.

I first met Broun at an early organizing meeting of the Guild. Ted Poston and I were there with some 300 or so editorial workers from the New York dailies. Broun was presiding. A huge, unkempt man, he talked easily and warmly to the group in that soothing drawl of his. He talked of the need for an organization of newspapermen and of the opportuneness of the time. That was in 1934 when NRA's Blue Eagle was soaring high.

After the meeting, Ted and I—we were both working on the old *Amsterdam News* then—went up to Broun and asked if the proposed organization would include the weeklies. He greeted us cordially and said he saw no reason why not. No policy had as yet been determined, he said, but to him, a man working on a weekly newspaper was as much a newspaperman as one working on a daily and as much in need of the protection such an organization would afford.

Later we came to know him as did all the editorial staff of the *Amsterdam News* who joined the Guild with us. If there was any tendency toward discrimination within the Guild, we realized that Broun stood like a bulwark against it. After the new publishers of *The Amsterdam News* "canned" Ted and me for Guild activities, Broun did what he could to help us get placed. But racial prejudice, of which the New York Guild was apparently free, dictated the employment policies of the New York publishers.

On Harlem Picket Line

During the strike on *The Amsterdam News* in the fall of 1935, Broun participated in all our activities. He lumbered up and down in front of the *News* office on our picket line, good-naturedly shouting our slogans. He attended committee meetings, joining us in formulating plans. He spoke for us from the public platform. He contributed to our strike fund. Unlike many white "liberals," Broun had nothing of the patronizing in his attitude. He was with us in Harlem as he had been with striking newsmen in Brooklyn, Newark and Long Island.

On at least three occasions during the strike he embarrassed all of us by arriving at strike headquarters early in the morning before any of us got down to the office. We found him there waiting for us. The boys downtown said that Heywood was just on his way in from a night out. Maybe so. But he was there to begin the day with us.

When a group of about 15 of us got arrested for mass picketing, Broun hurried uptown to take his place on the line—a sort of one-man mass picket. With other Guildsmen, he taunted the cops good humoredly. But they wouldn't arrest him. The next day he was in court with us to hear the Magistrate dismiss the case. Shortly thereafter, in his column he mentioned that he had been in court with some of his friends. He did not say Negro friends.

Sometimes he wrote his daily column in the rear of the crowded, busy strike headquarters on 135th street. Enviably facile in the use of words, he'd knock off a column in half an hour or so, oblivious to the noise and bustle about him. He seemed serene, unperturbed. At his funeral, it was indicated that even at that time he was disturbed in mind, seeking a guiding philosophy.

It was under Broun's leadership that the Guild challenged the Jim Crow barriers of the St. Louis hotels when the ANG held its annual convention there in 1937. Ted Poston was a delegate from the New York Guild. Breaking precedent, he was housed in the Statler hotel in that Jim Crow town. All the facilities of the hotel were opened to him—the dining room, the roof garden, the ballroom and the barber shop. He used them all and no calamity befell St. Louis.

Champion of Negro Rights

But it was not only the Negro newspapermen whom Heywood Broun knew. He knew Walter White, Frank Crosswaith, Paul Robeson, and others well. I remember going with him during the strike to get Robeson's endorsement. We got it. At one time, if I recall correctly, he served on the Spingarn Medal Award Committee.

In his column he was an unswerving champion of Negro rights, as indeed he was for all underprivileged and disadvantaged minorities. Many years ago, he wrote a column advocating that Negroes accept the designation "Nigger" and make of it a word to be respected as the Christians and Quakers had done. Nigger, he said, is a "basic but not base" word. It symbolized the strong muscled Negro worker whose energies had gone into the building of this America. On the other hand, "Darkey," he asserted, was a maudlin word deserving of disdain. His suggestion was received with no acclaim by Negroes. But anyone who knew Heywood Broun knows that he was trying to be neither facetious nor insulting. Years later, William Pickens, who was on the other side of the fence during the *Amsterdam News* strike, denounced Broun for making such a suggestion. This was after Broun had publicly assailed Pickens for his stand on the strike.

Now Heywood Broun is gone and there is none to take his place. There are other able columnists. There are other ardent defenders of minority rights. There are others prepared to advance the cause of labor. But there is none now who combines all the great qualities of heart and mind and spirit which made Heywood Broun the most beloved newspaperman in America, a tower of strength among his fellowmen, looking down upon no man, looking up to none.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Arthur B. Spingarn Is Elected NAACP President

Arthur B. Spingarn, prominent New York attorney was elected president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by the board of directors at the annual meeting here January 2.

Associated intimately with the work of the N.A.A.C.P. for more than a quarter of a century, Mr. Spingarn for 27 years has been chairman of the Association's national legal committee. He succeeds his brother, the late J. E. Spingarn, who died last July 26.

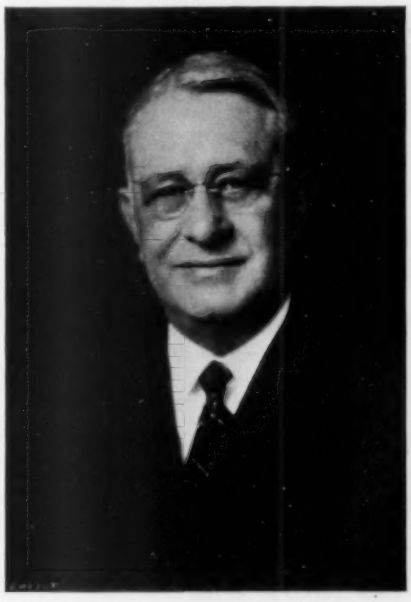
Mr. Spingarn is the third person to head the organization since it was founded thirty years ago in New York on Lincoln's birthday, February 12, 1909. The two former presidents were: Moorfield Storey, famous Massachusetts lawyer, one time head of the American Bar Association and secretary to Congressman Charles Sumner during the Civil War, who served from 1911 to his death in 1929; and J. E. Spingarn, former professor of Comparative Literature at Columbia university, who served from 1930 until July 26, 1939.

In accepting the presidency Mr. Spingarn said:

"I have accepted the Presidency of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with mixed feelings of humility and pride; humility at the thought of the impossibility of measuring up to the high standards set by my two illustrious predecessors, Moorfield Storey and Colonel J. E. Spingarn and pride at succeeding such great champions of human justice and at being given the opportunity of heading what I conceive to be one of the most constructive forces in American life today. The treatment which America accords to its minority groups is the real test of democracy in a world in which democrary is being seriously endangered.

"I trust that so long as I shall be its president, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will never in the slightest degree swerve from its courageous, militant and intelligent struggle to obtain for the Negroes of the country their full manhood rights and each and every privilege awarded to all Americans by the Constitution of the United States."

Dean William H. Hastie, of the Howard university law school, has been named chairman of the Association's national legal committee.



ARTHUR B. SPINGARN
New President

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
New Director

Randolph to Board

A. Philip Randolph, labor leader and president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters, was elected a member of the Association's national board of directors, for a term of two years.

Other members of the board re-elected for terms expiring in 1942 were: Miss Marion Cuthbert, Hubert T. Delany, Lewis S. Gannett, John Hammond, Dr. William Allan Neilson, the Rev. James H. Robinson, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Arthur B. Spingarn, all of New York.

Mrs. Grace B. Fenderson, Newark, N. J.; Dr. N. C. McPherson, Nashville, Tenn.; Dean William H. Hastie, Dr. Charles H. Thompson and Dr. Elizabeth Yates Webb, all of Washington, D. C.

The following persons were elected vice-presidents of the Association: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, of Washington, D. C.; Dr. Walter Gray Crump and Representative Caroline O'Day, both of New York.

National officers of the Association who were re-elected include: Dr. Louis T. Wright, chairman of the board; Miss Mary White Ovington, treasurer, and the following vice-presidents: Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, Godfrey Lowell Cabot, Senator Arthur Capper, Bishop John A. Gregg, the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, Judge Ira W. Jayne, the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, and Oswald Garrison Villard.

National executive officers of the Association who were re-appointed at a board meeting immediately following the annual meeting were: Walter White, secretary; Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary and editor of THE CRISIS; Thurgood Marshall and Charles H. Houston, special counsel; William Pickens, director of branches; Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary; E. Frederic Morrow, branch coordinator; George B. Murphy, Jr., publicity and promotion; the Rev. James H. Robinson, acting youth director.

Reports of departmental heads were read at the annual meeting. Outlining the Association's program for 1940 after rendering his report on 1939, Walter White, executive secretary, said the organization would put its forces squarely behind the fight to pass a federal anti-lynching bill, take steps to safeguard Negro workers under the Wage-Hour Law, work to protect Negroes under the proposed Federal education and Wagner Health bills, and the expanded version of the Social Security law.

Officials of the association travelled 55,000 miles during 1939 addressing

hundreds of meetings before colored and white and mixed audiences, as well as speaking over the radio in a number of cities.

Anti-Lynching Bill Passes House 252 to 131; Senate Hearings Set for Feb. 6

The Gavagan-Fish federal anti-lynching bill was passed by the house January 10 after the house sectional debate lasting two days. The vote was 252 to 131. Supporting the bill were 109 Democrats, 140 Republicans, 2 Progressives, 1 American Laborite. Against the bill were 123 Democrats, 8 Republicans.

At the insistence of Senator Tom Connally of Texas who has announced in advance that he will lead a filibuster against the bill if it reaches the floor of the Senate, the Senate Judiciary Committee has announced that hearings will be held beginning February 6.

The sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee which will conduct the hearings consists of Senators Frederick Van Nuys, Indiana, chairman; Matthew M. Neeley, West Virginia, Alexander Wiley, Wisconsin, Tom Connally, Texas, and Warren Austin, Vermont.

Senator Connally announced that he would seek an appropriation from the Senate to defray the travelling expenses of witnesses he intends to bring from the South to testify against the bill.

The NAACP and other organizations supporting the bill will assemble witnesses and material to present at the hearing to urge that it be passed.

After the hearing the sub-committee will report to the full judiciary committee either favorably or unfavorably and the full committee in turn will report to the Senate. It is regarded as unlikely, in spite of the announced efforts of Senator Connally, that the bill will be reported unfavorably. Once reported, the next job is to get the bill on the Senate calendar. Once on the calendar with the date set for its consideration, the job is to defeat the filibuster.

NAACP secretary Walter White is calling for the greatest possible pressure from voters back home in the states where Negro citizens hold a potential balance of power between the two major parties.

"In this critical presidential election year," said Mr. White, "a filibuster can be broken if the voters will make their wishes known. It is no longer a secret that both parties will fight desperately to capture the Negro vote. Both need it badly in order to win. If we make the right moves and do not compromise, or relax in our activity a filibuster can be smashed and the bill can be passed."

Stop-Lynching Buttons Pass 100,000 Mark

Stimulated by the passage of the federal anti-lynching bill in the house, the demand for the special "Stop-Lynching" buttons issued by the NAACP, had passed the 100,000 mark at the time THE CRISIS went to press. Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary, has been directing the nationwide sale from the national office since January 2. The largest orders for buttons came from Detroit, 5,000; a Harlem women's committee, headed by Dr. Alma Haskins, 5,000; the District of Columbia branch, 5,000; New Orleans, 5,000; Philadelphia, Pa., 3,000; Pittsburgh, Pa., 2,000; Cleveland, Ohio, 2,000; New Rochelle, N. Y., 1,500; New York City, 1,100; and Salinas, Calif., Tampa, Fla., West Palm Beach, Fla., Shreveport, La., Baltimore, Md., Tulsa, Okla., Oklahoma City, Okla. and Knoxville, Tenn., 1,000 each.

The buttons are being sold to raise funds for the anti-lynching fight and other legal defense work of the Association. The regular price is ten cents a button, but scores of persons over the country have paid from one dollar to ten dollars for a button to indicate their support of the campaign.

31st NAACP Birthday Dance, February 9

The 31st birthday dance of the NAACP will be held in the new Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd street and Lenox avenue, New York, the evening of February 9 with the popular Count Basie and his orchestra furnishing the music. The thirtieth annual dance last year with Duke Ellington's music drew 5,000 paid admissions and an equally large crowd is expected this year. Joe Louis, world heavy-weight champion, and his party will be special guests at the dance after the Louis-Godoy fight that same night at Madison Square Garden. Branches of the NAACP in the metropolitan area are cooperating in the sale of tickets.

Some charter members of the Brownsville, Tenn., branch. This unit was formed on March 12, 1939. The present enrollment is over seventy. Left to right, seated: William Williamson, vice-president; Mrs. Justine Harwell; Mrs. Roberta Davis; Mrs. Nannie Hilliard; Mrs. O. S. Bond, secretary; O. S. Bond, president; Mrs. Susie B. Taylor, Mrs. Irma L. Newbern, assistant secretary; Judson Taylor; Dr. John Waller; L. V. Hill; Abe Harris. Back row, left to right: Elbert Williams; Alex Hill; Elisha Davis; Dr. L. D. Thomas; Dewitt Carr; Jim Covington; Joseph Boone, treasurer; Walter Hilliard; Taylor Newbern; Thomas Davis; Silas Covington; Casher Davis; and Rev. Buster Walker

Harlem Branch Gives $100 To Anti-Lynching Fund

The New York City (Harlem) branch of the NAACP on January 16 sent a contribution of $100 out of its treasury to the national office for the anti-lynching fight. Branch president Lionel C. Barrow wrote that the New York branch "realizing that the anti-lynching fight will necessitate a huge expenditure of money is contributing a sum of $100."

NAACP Lawyers on *The Nation* Honor Roll

Three attorneys associated with the legal work of the NAACP were cited in the 1939 Honor Roll of *The Nation*, leading weekly magazine of opinion. They were: Dean William H. Hastie, Leon A. Ransom, both members of the association's national legal committee; Thurgood Marshall, special counsel; and W. A. C. Hughes, jr., attorney for the Baltimore, Md., branch. The citation was for the winning of the Anne Arundel County, Maryland, teacher's salary case.

Chicago Campaign

The membership campaign of the Chicago branch under the direction of Charles D. Murray ended December 16 with a total of $674.06 in memberships and contributions. Of this total $224 was contributed to the Chicago branch. The national office received $287.70 as its share of memberships collected. The campaign was in charge of E. Frederic Morrow, coordinator of branches from the New York office. The drive was handicapped severely by a widely publicized dispute which occurred last spring between the branch and a group of prominent Chicago citizens.

Supports NAACP

DR. O. CLAY MAXWELL, SR.

The popular pastor of Mount Olivet Baptist church, Lenox avenue and 120th street, New York City, has been for many years a staunch supporter of the work of the NAACP. His church, with a membership of 6,000 occupies one of the most imposing edifices in Harlem and carries on not only a progressive church program, but an active community service, also. Dr. Maxwell is a member of the board of directors of the National Baptist Convention and a vice president at large of the National B.Y.P.U. and Sunday School Congress. Members of his congregation purchased 1,200 "Stop Lynching" buttons after a recent Sunday morning service.

Branch News

Alabama: Celebration of the seventy-seventh anniversary of the signing of the emancipation proclamation was sponsored by the Mobile branch, at the St. Louis Street Baptist church. Rev. B. B. Williams supervised the program, a feature of which was the exhibit showing the progress of the Negro since 1863.

Connecticut: January 1 was installation day for the newly elected officers of the Bridgeport branch. Those taking office were: John W. Lancaster, president; Mrs. Marie Price, vice-president; McDonald Isaacs, secretary; Mrs. M. J. Whiting, assistant secretary; Albert Cannady, treasurer; and on the executive committee are Rev. F. W. Jacobs, Rev. J. W. Watson, Rev. D. W. Roston, J. W. Blackwell, Mrs. M. Steward, Rev. S. H. Clarke, Mrs. Zvenia Jackson Brown, Henry Morgan, Daniel Jennett, Elder A. Jones, Rev. E. W. Collins and Rev. J. D. Wilson.

R. M. Heininger, director of the Hartford Union Settlement was guest speaker for the January meeting of the Hartford branch. Miss Laura Mattox, pianist and vocalist, gave a brief recital.

Maryland: Co-chairmen, Mrs. Annie F. Erwin and Mrs. Elizabeth C. Jackson, and their aides have been busy collecting funds for the Community Center Drive sponsored by the Cumberland branch. At last report the association had already contributed $59.80 to the fund.

District of Columbia: Secretary John Lovell reports that the District of Columbia branch asked the theaters to open their doors to the "full citizenry of Washington" with the local showing of the "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" movie. The branch has also protested the "abusive" radio reporting of the return to Memphis of W. C. Handy, composer of the "St. Louis Blues." At a recent meeting Dutton Ferguson reported on the inadequate playgrounds and recreation in the Negro areas of the District.

Georgia: T. M. Alexander has been elected president of the Atlanta branch, and other officers are Hattie Feger, first vice-president; Rev. S. Pettagrue, second vice-president; Mrs. L. D. Milton, treasurer; Ethelynde Holmes, secretary; and Docia Steele, assistant secretary. The branch held its Emancipation Day celebration at the Wheat Street Baptist church, and Rev. W. R. Wilkes delivered the principal address.

Illinois: Mrs. Annie Lee Davis, Rabbi E. Louis Cardon, Miss Grace Cone, Rev. I. S. Stone, Eugene Woodson, and Ivan C. Harper are new members elected to the Springfield branch executive committee. Re-elected are S. B. Osby, Jr., president; John H. Wilson, vice-president; Jeremiah H. Hill, secretary; W. D. Isabel, assistant secretary; L. T. Artis, treasurer; and D. E. Webster, M. W. Withers, Rev. G. C. White, W. M. Ashby, W. B. Bruce, R. Jones, Mrs. Marie Sublett, and R. P. Taylor, executive committee.

Iowa: The Des Moines branch observed its twenty-fifth anniversary with a program at the Corinthian Baptist church on January 19. Kathryn M. Johnson, first field secretary of the association, was introduced as principal speaker by S. Joe Brown, organizer of the branch.

Celebration of the emancipation proclamation, sponsored by the Keokuk branch, was held in Pilgrim Rest Baptist church. Those taking part in the program were Mrs. K. S. Myers, Mrs. Myrtle Mills, Mrs. Susie R. Draine, who gave the main address, Rev. C. W. Carter and William Smith.

The Marshalltown branch has elected the following officers: Rose Bannon, president; Frank Wilder, vice-president; Mrs. H. J. Parker, second vice-president; Mrs. B. W. Howard, secretary; M. Gardner, corresponding secretary; and Sam Brown, treasurer. Rev. E. W. Rogers was in charge of the nominating committee.

P. L. Scott, president of the Mason City branch, announced Charles Groman to be the main speaker at the January meeting, held at St. John's Baptist church.

Roy Winston has been named president of the Ottumwa branch, to be assisted by John Crayton, vice-president; George Jackson, Jr., secretary; Mrs. Leora Davis, assistant secretary; and Paul Junkins, treasurer.

Kentucky: A new branch has been organized in Middlesboro with Rev. D. T. Wood as president, Rev. G. W. Mays, vice-president, Joseph Williams, secretary, Mrs. D. B. Miller, assistant secretary, and Jeff Etter, treasurer.

Michigan: A mass meeting in the interest of the appointment of a Negro to the police force was held January 7 by the Lansing branch, of which J. McKinley Lee, is president. Detective Lt. W. W. Coe of the Grand Rapids force was principal speaker.

New Jersey: At the December 12 meeting of the Jersey City branch Dean Pickens was the guest speaker. Sam Buchannon, who just 34 hours before had been freed, told the story of his 14 years on the Georgia chain gang. The extradition case was fought by the branch which thanks its president, Rev. E. P. Dixon and Attorney Charles W. Carter for the successful ending. The following are officers of the branch: vice-presidents, Dr. J. R. Stroud, Rev. E. S. Hardge, Mrs. Cordelia G. Johnson; secretary, Costella D. Coles; assistant secretary, Harriet Seay; treasurer, E. J. French, and members of the executive committee, J. E. Curry, R. Evans, Dr. P. Sinclair, Fred Martin, F. Isom, W. Singleton, F. Conwell, Mrs. Mary E. Pope, Mrs. J. E. Branch, Mrs. G. Nunnery, J. E. Bright, and Cora Vaughn.

The Long Branch unit installed these officers in December after an address by

Dr. David Anthony: Dr. J. C. McKelvie, president; Ethel M. Howard, vice-president; A. Ruth Moore, secretary; Inez Williams, assistant secretary; and Anna Mumby, treasurer. Attorney Frank H. Wimberly of Trenton was guest speaker at the public meeting sponsored by the branch in celebration of the emancipation proclamation anniversary.

The auxiliary of the Morristown branch gave a Christmas party for 200 children at the Bethel AME church. Arrangements were made by Mrs. Robert Strowbridge, president, Mrs. W. Hucles, Mrs. M. S. Burton and Alma Lewis, Estelle Walker and Clara Watson.

The Newark branch held its January 9 meeting at the Urban League, when the president Dr. J. Leroy Baxter urged members to report on Christmas seals, and also to write their senators and congressmen to vote for the anti-lynching bill.

Dr. D. W. Anthony, president of the New Jersey state conference, was speaker at the mass meeting called in New Brunswick to organize a local branch on January 4.

At the December meeting of the Paterson branch, of which Mrs. Fannie H. Curtis is president, reports were received from the entertainment committee and William Armstead, chairman of the Christmas seal committee. William Robinson was named chairman of the committee for sale of "Stop-Lynching" buttons.

New York: The 1940 officers of the Albany branch are Mrs. G. Bowks, president; M. R. Jefferson, John H. Bronk, and John Wright, vice-presidents; G. M. Olive, Mrs. Jean Francis, Estelle Feltman and Ruth Freedman, secretaries; E. E. Bonner, treasurer; and J. D. King, assistant treasurer. The branch reports the largest membership in its history, and that it has more than paid up its 1939 apportionment and is going to send an additional check on 1940.

Charging that members of real estate boards show discrimination by refusing to sell bank-owned property to Negroes, the New Rochelle branch has requested the banks of the city to "call the bluff" and investigate the actual effects of Negroes moving into white neighborhoods. Officers of the branch are Dr. E. E. Bess, president; Isaac Webb, first vice-president; Mrs. Nellie Jones, second vice-president; Mrs. Etolia Butler, corresponding secretary; Frank Minor, financial secretary; Vietta Drummond, recording secretary, and Albert Scantleberry, treasurer.

The Ossining branch held its January meeting in the North Malcolm Methodist church. Plans for the meeting included installation of officers, discussion of a general program for the new year, and selection of a committee for selling anti-lynching buttons.

Officers elected in the Peekskill branch are: J. I. Barnes, Sr., president; M. G. Rabb, vice-president; C. Spicer, second vice-president; Doris Barnes, secretary; and Edly M. Jackson, treasurer.

The White Plains branch has donated $20 to the treasury of the White Plains Student Aid Society, an organization for the aid of deserving high school graduates.

Ohio: Congressman Robert F. Jones was the guest speaker at the December meeting of the Lima branch.

Judge H. H. Wilson was the guest speaker at the emancipation day celebration held by the Midland branch of which John Thornton is president. Talks were also given by Henry Bobo, S. Whitfield, and Warren Alston. Rev. S. J. Alston of the Mt. Olive Baptist church, gave the invocation and Rev. J. B. Pratt of First Baptist church installed the new officers.

The following have been announced as officers of the Columbus branch: W. S. Lyman, president; Rev. C. F. Jenkins, vice-president; Helen Napper, secretary; Mrs. Chester Gray, assistant secretary, and Mrs. C. Nichols, treasurer. Projects under way for the new year are presentation of Dean Pickens on February 1, and a tea sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary, Mrs. Inez Holmes, president. Co-chairmen are Evelyn Warren, Edith McCann, Gladyce Taylor, Constance Nichols, Jessie Dickinson, Bonnie Whitaker, and Eleanor Bentley. The following have been named to head committees: Edward Cox, legal redress; Rev. C. F. Jenkins, membership; Mrs. Chester Gray, program; W. F. Savoy, education; Mrs. Constance Nichols, budget; Mrs. Thelma A. Jackson, outlook, and Barbee W. Durham, publicity.

Pennsylvania: Dr. Charles H. Crampton was scheduled to be guest speaker at the Williamsport branch public forum in January.

The Media branch has gotten off on a good start for the new year by announcing an almost complete program for the season. A pocket calendar with meeting dates for the year on the back and a message sent to members and friends, was the novel method employed by the branch to increase interest and attendance.

Virginia: On January 14, the Lynchburg branch gave a musical and literary program under the sponsorship of the Halifax County branch.

Washington: The Spokane branch elected the following annual officers at Calvary Baptist church: Rev. E. B. Reed, president; Rev. E. D. Chappell, vice-president; F. A. Stokes, secretary; Clarence Grubb, treasurer.

Newly elected officers of the Tacoma branch are: Dr. E. E. Elmore, president; Dr. L. C. Bowling, vice-president; Mrs. Eliza McCabe, secretary; Harold Morris, assistant secretary; and Mrs. Nettie Asberry, treasurer.

West Virginia: The Charleston branch held its meeting on January 14 at which time the local chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority presented a play.

Youth Council News

A Glance at 1939

In order to plan intelligently for 1940, we must go back to 1939 and take inventory.

On the achievement side, we find total contributions from youth groups for 1939 well over the $2,000 mark which we had set as our goal; ten youth councils and two college chapters chartered; forty-two youth organization committees, 14 of which survived and six of which became chartered; support of the first legal defense case directly involving a youth member to the extent of $300; participation in all phases of the national program of the association.

On the error side we find things that are due in many instances to carelessness, and which can easily be corrected. Some of them are failure to report membership campaigns, election of officers, change of address, local programs of interest, and non-functioning groups; too large a percentage of uncompleted apportionments.

Youth groups completing apportionments in 1939, representing a total of $1,629.10, are: Boston, Mass., $506.60; Detroit, Mich., $409.83; Brooklyn, N. Y., $90; Cleveland, O., $75; Rockford, Ill., $59.25; Richmond, Va., $58; Springfield, Mass., $53; Montclair, N. J., $45.75; Houston, Tex., $41; St. Petersburg, Fla., $40; San Antonio, Tex., $34; Philadelphia, Pa., $32.50; Jersey City, N. J., $28; Charleston, W. Va., $27; Mobile, Ala., $27; Chicago, Ill., $26.20; Cheyney Teachers College, Pa., $25.41; Allen University, Columbia, S. C., $25; Morristown, N. J., $25.

Christmas Baskets Given By Grand Rapids Council

A successful charity dance attended by more than 300 persons was given during the holidays by the Grand Rapids council for the purpose of securing food to go into baskets for needy families. Admission to the dance was an article of food, with members of the patrons' committee being requested to bring a fowl or roast. Twenty-two baskets were filled and distributed. Club Indigo was donated by the management for the affair and music was furnished by the Club Indigo orchestra and the Federal Music Project band. Mrs. Hazel Skinner is adviser to the youth council.

Tulsa Denounces Discrimination

The Tulsa, Oklahoma, youth council, of which Jackson Franklin is the president, made public discrimination which prevailed in the Oklahoma Youth Legislature recently. Charging that certain reactionaries in the state are trying to make the Youth Legislature a "lily white" organization, when it was intended for youth of all races, colors and creeds, the N.A.A.C.P. youth council adopted resolutions of protest and sent copies of them to the state capitol.

This action was brought about when one Stanley Synar of Stillwater headed a faction composed of nine other Stillwater students, and at a special meeting of their own, without knowledge or consent of the entire legislature, issued

(*Continued on page 61*)

The Treasurer Says—

AS Treasurer of the N.A.A.C.P., I have been asked by the Board and the editor of THE CRISIS to conduct a page each month. They believe that this side of the Association's work may be of interest to our many supporters and may induce other readers to join with us.

My instinct is to go back into the past before I talk about the present, believing that we cannot judge intelligently of the present without a knowledge of the past. So I'll begin my page with a list of the contributions by years that have come to the N.A.A.C.P. since it began.

This is the first of the monthly chats about finances of the NAACP to be written by Miss Mary White Ovington, one of the founders of the association, one-time chairman of the board of directors, and at present the national treasurer

Contributions From All Sources

1910	$ 4,500
1911	4,600
1912	11,800
1913	15,500
1914	14,000
1915	13,000
1916	23,500
1917	14,500
1918	29,500
1919	61,800
1920	47,300
1921	70,900
1922	69,500
1923	73,000
1924	61,300
1925	108,600
1926	78,800
1927	51,000
1928	53,000
1929	52,600
1930	59,900
1931	72,000
1932	64,000
1933	48,000
1934	55,400
1935	46,200
1936	53,500
1937	72,300
1938	64,100
1939	70,000

Special Cases

Certain facts may be learned from these figures. The first that the sudden jumps in income to be followed by substantial drops are accounted for by drives for special funds: 1916, the first anti-lynching campaign; 1925, the Sweet case; 1931, the Scottsboro case. People will give for a specific cause when they cannot be interested in a day by day drive for justice. But one dramatic increase came from another reason. In 1919, John R. Shilladay, an experienced worker, was engaged by the Association as secretary, with the understanding that he lift us out of the small budget class into one with at least enough funds to make an attempt at national work. In that first campaign he more than doubled our income, and he did it by making our organization really national, by increasing the number of branches from 165 to 314. Some of us were a little disappointed that he did not raise more from white people, but he said wisely that unless he could show that the Negroes of the country believed in the N.A.A.C.P., it was futile to talk to the whites.

While our increase in support has not kept up with the sudden advance shown in 1919, culminating in 1925, we must remember that the depression came in 1929. I have purposely left out some securities left to us from estates wanting to make as clear a picture as I could of our cash contributions, but we had to sell securities after the depression to get us past low water marks. We've not done so badly when we remember how much more money there was in men's pockets and in their banks in the optimistic, flourishing years after the World War.

Increased Demands

But while last year saw us receiving $70,000, the demands on us keep mounting. This is easily understandable when you remember that each year the Association becomes better known. Supposing you were acting in a moving picture and playing a small role. Then one day someone notices you, you are promoted to a better part and your fan mail begins coming in! You're swamped with it and so are we swamped with the multitude of things that we have to do with a small staff. We are daily struggling to get out of an avalanche of paper work and just when we begin to see the snow pushed to one side a hurry call comes to get out some anti-lynching memoranda or legal rights broadside that keeps everyone working for days at top speed to the detriment of other less immediate business. The avalanche covers us again. Let us this year reach a $100,000 goal.

In this opening word I would stress the necessity of the Negroes themselves shouldering the support of our ceaseless drive for freedom and democracy. While we shall always have steady and generous support from the white group, we cannot today, facing the overwhelming suffering and persecution in Europe, expect our need to come first. The Negro must fight his own battle against discrimination and persecution. And the receipts from colored people must bear a still larger proportion than formerly to the receipts from whites. They are now about 70% of the whole. A guess, merely, but probably a good one.

Letter from Louisiana

This morning I received a letter from Joseph LaChappell, Opelousas, La. It encloses a dollar for membership. "I am a poor boy living in the deep south," it says. "I know I am not enjoying life but I am still in hope and I intend to live in hope. But I see we must struggle for what we want. We Negroes must battle for our national rights, 'cause I feel I am entitled to the same rights as any American citizen. The N.A.A.C.P. is doing all it can."

Please, each reader, help to make that true.

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Book Review

SONGS FROM HAITI

HAITI SINGING. By Harold Courlander. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1939. Illustrated with photographs and drawings, XII–2 73 pp. $3.50.

The purpose of *Haiti Singing* is to present an accurate, documented study of what Haitian peasants sing "and what their singing means to them." These songs, since they are religious ones, center around Vodoun and the Vodoun dance, and are of the very fabric of certain features of Haitian religious life. Our author explains the one through means of the other. He admits in one of his appendices, however, that his book does not completely cover the subject of singing in Haiti. "For example, the work songs which are heard on the docks and in the coffee warehouses, the road gang songs, the plantation songs, the songs of the *coumbites* and the *société* offer a field of study all in themselves." Even many Haitian folk tales are in the last analysis nothing but recitative chants. Nor does our author include any of the many famous "political" songs about various famous Haitians. Some of these songs have become classics. One of the oldest ones is "Brave Dessalines"; another is about "Bon Papa Alexis"; and since Vincent's administration they have been created by the dozens. Dr. Price-Mars once observed that "the Haitians are a people who sing and suffer, who suffer and smile, a people who laugh and dance and resign themselves." Haitians, therefore, are likely to make up songs about almost every aspect of their daily living. They sing the village gossip, they sing of unfaithful wives and cuckoldry, of love and work and life and death.

What Mr. Courlander has made available are not the popular secular songs, but the songs of the Vodoun dance and cult. "Vodoun," he believes, "permeates the land." Yet I doubt if Vodoun is as pervasive as most foreigners would have us believe. What these writers so often mistake for Vodoun turns out upon close analysis not to be Vodoun at all but merely universal folk superstition. It is very difficult and sometimes impossible to separate purely European superstitions and beliefs from those which have their origin in African animism. The widespread cult of twins is one illustration. Foreign writers likewise ignore the primal influence and force of the Catholic Church in Haitian communal and spiritual life. They forget that the *Code Noir* compelled every slave to be baptized and instructed in the Catholic faith. Which makes it inevitable that the Catholic element should bulk large even in Vodoun itself. Frequently it is a deformed Catholicism that your tyro anthropologist mistakes for Vodoun itself. Grotesque exaggeration of certain rites and journalistic sensationalism have given Vodoun a very sinister name. Vodoun proper has nothing to do with cannibalism, zombiism, and snake worship. Nor is its service the wild orgy described by many journalists and tourists.

Vodoun is really the folk religion of the Haitian masses and is a syncretism of African Animism and Roman Catholicism. In main outline its essential elements are much like those of any other religion. Followers of the cult believe in one God who created the world and man and who rules the universe through the assistance of His Son Jesus Christ and Saints of the Catholic Church. But they also believe in certain African deities called *loa*, many of which are of local origin however, who regulate their daily activities. *Loa* protect farms and gardens, guard against illness and death, and make men live better and happier lives. The *loa* are assisted in their duties by spirits of the dead and the spirits of twins, but their exact importance is not known. *Loa* make their desires known by *possession* and it is this *possession* which is the most frequently described feature of the cult, especially by foreigners. Yet even the apparently undisciplined, orgiastic phenomenon of *possession* follows well-defined regulations and rules. Worship of the *loa* may be individual, familial, or communal. The priests of the cult are called *houngan*, the sacred building the *hounfort*, and the scene of the Vodoun dances, the *tonnelle*.

This background material our author gives in the first five chapters of his book, as it is necessary for clarification and classification of the religious songs which he has collected. His list of *loa* is just about the most comprehensive that I have seen in print. Music for these *loa* is furnished by drums, usually three, called in most of the dances, *maman, seconde*, and *bula*, or *bébé*. "The drummers are called *tambouyés*, and the player of the *ogans*, the *ogantier*. The singing is led by the man or woman who carries the *kwa-kwa*, a small gourd rattle filled with pebbles. They dance under the canopy, counterclockwise around the center post; a coco-oil lamp usually provides the light. The drummers sit together, on a single bench or on straight-backed chairs, and next to them stands the *ogantier*. It is the dancers who sing. The drummers never participate in the songs, although the player of the *manman* drum, who beats variations on the theme, frequently supplements his music vocally with strong throat sounds on the accented beats."

Procedure in the songs of the *coumbite* are however different. "There is a man called the *catalier*, who keeps the workers in good humor by inventing new songs for them to sing. The songs of the *coumbite* are a newspaper of the affairs of the people who live in the vicinity."

Mr. Courlander has collected the words for approximately one hundred and eighty-five songs. These songs are first set down in the original creole and then translated into idiomatic English. Melodies for one hundred and twenty-six of them are also included. "Much as with our own Negro work songs and spirituals, Haitian group singing, whether secular or religious, has its singing 'bosses.' These leaders have a multitude of names, such as, for example, *reine* Congo, *reine*

(*Continued on page 60*)

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A Negro girl saved George Washington's life in 1776.
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The white population of New York City is a third more illiterate than the Negro one

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Social Security

(*Continued from page* 43)

month following the period covered by the statement, except that, if the employee leaves the employ of the employer the final statement shall be furnished on the day on which the last payment of wages is made to the employee. The employer may, at his option, furnish such a statement to any employee at the time of each payment of wages to the employee during any calendar quarter, in lieu of a statement covering such quarter; and in such case the statement may show the date of the payment of the wages, in lieu of the period covered by the statement."

An employee may obtain from the Board at any time, a statement showing the exact status of his wage account.

Increases for Children

A marked liberalization of the provisions for public assistance, particularly those relating to dependent children, has been effected. To enable the parent or other responsible relative to care for a child at home, the state pays a cash allowance monthly. Under the old law the Federal government paid one-third of this allowance up to $18 a month for the first child and $12 for each other child in the same family. The amended law provides that the Federal contribution as of January 1, 1940, shall be one-half of the State payment. In addition, the age limit for the Federal matching of payments is raised from 16 years to 18 years provided the child is regularly attending school.

More Federal money has also been made available for grants to the state for aid to the needy aged and needy blind. Under the original law the Federal government paid one-half of the state assistance allowances up to a combined Federal-State total of $30. Beginning January 1, 1940, the Federal government matches State payments up to a total of $40 a month.

While the amendments to the Social Security Act of 1935 have given the workers of the country a broader and more liberal program, it need not be assumed that the gates to further advances have been closed. When the President signed the amendments in August he called for further study of the law. Already there are indications that Congress will, if not at the present session, at some later time, consider a further extension of coverage, particularly the old-age insurance system, and of the setting up of some form of insurance against the risk of illness.

Book Review

(*Continued from page* 58)

chanteuse, and *la place* Congo, the specific title depending upon the nature of the assembly. Singing at dances is done by those participating, spectators rarely, if ever joining in. In the religious and semi-religious dances covered by the broad term Vodoun, the singing leader begins by beating time with a rattle, and sings a song through once or twice before the dancers take up the melody. Vodoun vocal music does not utilize harmony. On occasions some voices sing 'high' while others sing 'low,' but this is a matter dictated by individual range. Men often use falsetto; it is considered an accomplishment for a man to be able to sing well 'like a woman.'" Very simple in their rhythm these songs seldom run to more than six or seven lines; it is seldom that any of the lines rhyme. Though often imbued with a languorous and at times agonizing melancholy their general tenor is however much different from that of our own blues and spirituals.

A well written, impartial, scholarly book and worth the attention of every serious student of Haitian life and folklore.

JAMES W. IVY

Britain

(*Continued from page* 40)

too. Irrefutable data for this may be found in my "100 Amazing Facts About the Negro With Complete Proof."

MANY FINE MEN

the country over who lived at the

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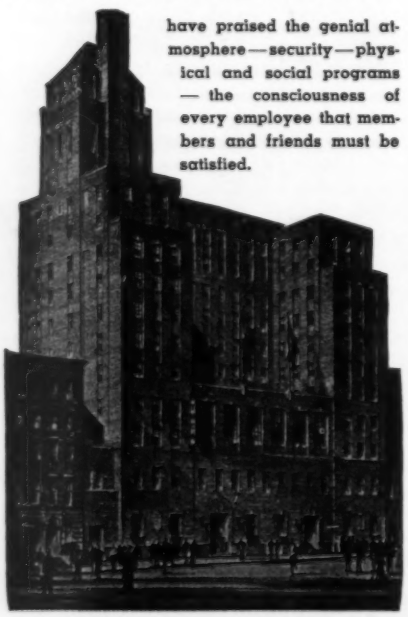

have praised the genial atmosphere—security—physical and social programs — the consciousness of every employee that members and friends must be satisfied.

Two buildings in the heart of Harlem:

180 West 135th St. 181 West 135th St.

A case of what is called miscegenation in America occurred in the English royal family as late as 1916. A granddaughter of Pushkin, Russia's greatest poet, whose ancestor was a former slave brought from Africa, married into the Mountbatten family, cousins of George V. (Burke's Peerage, Vol. II, p. 1733, 1936; Ruvigny, "The Titled Nobility of Europe," p. 1450. London, 1914.) At the time of the marriage, Mr. Hearst with his usual enterprise in such matters, splashed the story in his Sunday supplement and predicted that a coal-black baby with thick lips, etc. etc., might yet be born into the royal family. The Nordic theory is that one drop of Negro blood can knock out a million drops of white.

Some small degree of intermixing still goes on, principally in Cardiff, Liverpool, and Manchester. Cardiff has a Negro population of about 7,000, the fathers being nearly all black and the mothers white. But this mixing is no proof of racial harmony. The lot of the English-born Negro as I knew it as late as 1937, is perhaps the worst in the world. In America it is said that Negroes are the last to be hired and the first to be fired. In England they're hardly hired at all. In France it is easy to find Negroes in high governmental positions. I have inquired for years in vain to learn of a single such one in England.

Empire Menaced

It is my opinion that there is less rooted prejudice against Negroes in Nazi Germany than in England. In short, if North America had remained in the hands of the Spanish, the French, and the Dutch, the Negroes of the United States would be much further advanced than they are today. As was said, the United States is the only country in the New World with laws against its citizens and England is the only country in Europe where Negroes are discriminated against. Nazi Germany has no Negroes to speak of.

England and her offspring the United States have set up jim-crow laws and racial discriminations, more or less subtle, in order to rob the black man of the fruits of as much of his labor as possible. They call that solving the problem.

One fact is certain. The dark peoples of the world are not going to be much longer content with the snail's pace at which the rights that were taken from them at one gulp are being dribbled back to them. Unless England returns to that freedom from color prejudice she knew before she became a great colonial power she is likely to lose her empire. Eighty per cent of the British empire is colored. And it is becoming increasingly evident that when Britain goes down it won't be exactly a holiday for America. Britain's mightiest enemies —Germany, Russia, Italy, Japan, not to mention the darker races, are no friends of America, either.

Sky Writer

By JOHN MAHER MURPHY

Man, if you must deface the skies,
Better this scribbled snow
Than lightning seared upon the eyes
By bombs that earthward go;
Better this brobdingnagian chalk
On blackboards coolly blue
Than zigzag of a zooming hawk
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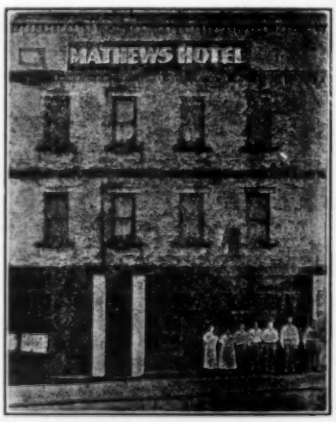

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Youth Council

(*Continued from page* 56)

the following call to the third annual legislature:

"Any youth between the ages of 16 and 25, of either sex, and of the white race (as defined in Article 23, Section 11 of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma) is eligible to participate."

They explained this segregation by saying that Negroes were too easily dominated by Communists. Other explanations were that Negro and white youth working together increased racial feeling.

The youth council's protest has the endorsement of the following persons: Mrs. Lotus A. Harper, chairman of sponsors; Dr. Ellen Goebel, University of Tulsa; Robert Bernadeau, Youth Hostel Movement; George Crooms, Tulsa attorney; Rev. Raybon Porter, St. Luke's M. E. Church; Jack Frost, Sand Springs, Okla.; Frederick Barth, American League for Peace and Democracy; Roscoe Dunjee, editor of the Black Dispatch; Carl Molleur, Cleveland Farmers' Union, and Rev. Thompson of Tulsa.

Montclair Membership Campaign

At the close of the recent membership campaign of the Montclair, N. J., youth council, Thomas Flagg, president, won first prize for bringing in 12 members, and second prize was won by Miss Elsie Gibbs for 11 new members. Both were given free trips to New York City. The drive, under the direction of Miss Marjorie Robinson, increased the membership roll to 70.

Virginia Union Contributes

The Virginia Union university college chapter sent a contribution of $12 to the Anderson Defense Fund recently. This money was realized from a campus-wide Tag Day and was participated in by faculty and student groups. Miss Bathrus Bailey is president of the chapter.

Christmas Seals

Youth councils and college chapters distributed 185,000 Christmas Seals. The first reports are as follows: Detroit, Michigan, $335.38; Louisville, Kentucky, $10; Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va., $15; Morristown College, Tenn., $5; Charleston, W. Va., $10. The Detroit youth council continues to head the list, and this year's first report exceeds the last by well over $100.

Boston Swells Anderson Fund

A second contribution of $108.65 was made by the Boston, Mass., youth council to the Anderson fund, bringing their total contribution to $118.65. This amount was realized from a mass meeting, under the direction of Miss Gertrude E. Smith, education chairman of the council.

The council, under the leadership of Reynold Costa, president, closed 1939 with a splendid record of achievement, which placed them at the head of the youth council roster, financially and otherwise. A total of $506.60 was sent to the national office for 1939, which amount represented memberships, Christmas Seals, Education Fund, Anderson Fund, annual conference and national officer's traveling expense.

Organization Committees

Mrs. Frances King, secretary of the Newport, R. I. branch, sent a request for information and material for the organization of a youth council in that city.

William Woodson of Waynesboro, Virginia, taking advantage of the sentiment aroused by a local police brutality case, is forming a youth council in that community.

As a result of the successful membership campaigns staged by Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary, throughout the state of Texas recently, an N.A.A.C.P. college chapter is being formed at Butler College, Tyler, Texas, under the direction of Miss Edna G. Williams.

Elizabeth Membership Drive

The Elizabeth, N. J. youth council started the year with a successful membership campaign. The new officers are, Joseph Ramey, president; Essie Mae Skinner, vice-president; Sally Alexander, recording secretary; Robert Folkes, corresponding secretary; John Little, treasurer.

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—Insurance in force: $288,963,070.00
—Policies in force: 1,643,125
—Ordinary Insurance: $80,106,234
—Industrial Insurance: $181,961,766.63.
—Health and Accident Insurance: $26,895,069.37
—Employment: 8,150 Negroes
—Policies issued and Revived in 1936: $174,112,773.00
—Increased business, 1936: $65,645,466
—Increase in policies, 1936: 251,047

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Alabama Children

(*Continued from page* 47)

be seen from the data contained in a survey of crippled children in Georgia (1937) made by the Works Progress Administration. It states that 41% of the Negro cripples in rural Georgia are receiving no treatment as compared to 23.2% of whites in the same state. Against 38.3% of white crippled children, 21.2% of Negro crippled children received hospital treatment. Ratios of white and Negro crippled children to the total white and Negro population were 2.80 per thousand and 1.89 per thousand respectively.

Since Alabama offers the same service to all crippled children no statistics based on race are available for this state, but the ratios from the Georgia survey may be considered valid for the South generally.

Infantile Paralysis, 20%

Approximately 20,000 crippled children have seen in Alabama. Of the 500 cases seen by Dr. Chenault approximately 20% had infantile paralysis. Ten percent had been crippled from burns. Some had caught fire from open fireplaces (the prevailing heating system in the homes in rural sections); others had fallen into outdoor fires used to heat big black wash-pots.

Fully 10% of the little victims are crippled because of birth injuries due to improper obstetrical care. It is to be noted in this connection that these victims of birth injuries are from the same areas that give the highest maternal mortality, the highest infant mortality —the areas where the mid-wife still holds sway.

High Illiteracy Rate

When it is remembered that the term "crippled children" includes those in the age range from a few weeks to 21 years, the question of education becomes significant. The Georgia survey, quoted above, states that 473 out of a total of 1,916 Negro crippled children from 5 to 21 years of age were found to have no education. "Two hundred fifty-five, or 17.7 percent of the Negro crippled children from 10 to 21 years of age were reported as illiterate, whereas 9.5 per cent of the Negroes 10 to 20 years of age in the general state population were reported as illiterate. . . . Since much of the census information was obtained through schools, it is reasonable to assume that a large proportion of the Negro crippled children not included in the survey were illiterate."

A further statement from the Georgia survey has been verified in the case of Willie B. of the Tuskegee Institute crippled children's unit. Says the survey: "Many children mentally capable of receiving an education are physically unable to do so, because the special equipment necessary to enable them to attend school is not provided. . . . The findings of the survey indicate that crippled children (given the opportunity) made a steady rate of advancement in school."

When Willie B. was admitted to the hospital he was 12 years old; he was one of a family of ten; he had been on crutches for two years; he had never been to school. Dr. Chenault found Willie underweight, malnourished and suffering from tuberculosis of the ankle. Immediately after he was hospitalized, Willie was put in the primer class taught by the WPA teacher who holds classes at the hospital every day. After several months of hospitalization Willie was able to walk without his crutches. Later he was taken into a home in the community that he might be near the doctor for continued treatment and observation. In a few weeks, Willie, plump, happy, and walking like a normal boy entered the first grade of the local public school. He has been promoted recently to the third grade.

Carrie T. is enjoying her classes with the WPA teacher, and hopes to be going to a "regular" school very soon. Carrie T. is a burn case. When she entered the hospital in February 1939, the calf of her left leg was bent back to such an extent that her heel almost touched her thigh, and the skin of the calf had grown to the thigh. She had been on crutches for several years. The burned leg was scarcely half the size of the good one. In November Carrie was hopping about everywhere on one crutch; the burned leg had been straightened out until the toes touched the floor. The next operation will bring the whole foot to the floor. The burned leg was now almost the size of the good one. "The leg gets a peanut oil massage every day," said the surgeon.

Patients are kept at the hospital as long as they need the daily ministrations of the doctor or special physical therapy. Then they are returned to their homes so as to maintain family contact. At home the children are visited by the orthopedic supervisor from the state office and by the county nurses who are specially trained for follow-up care. At intervals the patients are returned to the hospital for additional treatment, perhaps another operation, or some special therapy, or X-rays to check the progress of recovery.

No Difference in Service

Dr. Chenault was emphatic in his statement that this follow-up service was the same for white and Negro children. Work among mid-wives is being done for both races to reduce the number of paralysis cases due to birth injuries. Through the generosity of the Rosenwald Fund two Negro nurses received intensive training for this type of service during the past year. These young women are now working in rural sections of Alabama, and assisting in the follow-up program.

Dr. John A. Kenney, director of the hospital, and Dr. Chenault are enthusiastic over the new polio (infantile paralysis) unit to be erected from the Infantile Paralysis Foundation grant of $161,350.

Work will soon begin on the new unit, which is to be located about 200 feet east of the John A. Andrew hospital. There will be 30 beds, a tiled swimming pool, and modern physical therapy equipment.

The staff, in addition to Dr. Kenney and Dr. Chenault, orthopedic surgeon in charge, will consist of three physical therapists, six nurses, and a resident surgeon. The latter will be in training in orthopedics. Miss Marjorie Franklin, now on a year's leave for advanced training at the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled in New York, will return as head of physical therapy in the new set-up.

Dr. Chenault stated that the Tuskegee unit would be associated with the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation just as Warm Springs is associated with the National Foundation. He stated further that the state unit for treatment of crippled children will continue as at present in the east wing of the John A. Andrew hospital. Only the polio cases will be taken in the national unit in the new building.

NEW HEALTH PAMPHLET

A 24-page pamphlet, "101 Questions and Answers on Health," by Dr. John B. West, district health officer of the Harlem Health Center, has just been issued. It is a joint enterprise of the health center and the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, Inc. Inquiries should be directed to Dr. West at 2238 Fifth Avenue, New York.

The picture of the lawyers in the Maryland teachers' salary case carried on page 11 of the January CRISIS was an *Afro-American* photograph, loaned through the courtesy of that newspaper.